IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

1	ATLANTA DIVISION	FILED IN CLERK'S OFFICE
LARRY WHISTLER a/k/a LARRY ZBYSZKO a/k/a THE LIVING LEGEND, an individual,)	LUTHER CHERK
Plaintiff,)	,
vs.)	
WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a R Corporation, VINCE MCMAH individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/ CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERIC individual, Defendants	HON, an) k/a) CHO, an))	
)	

MOTION TO DISMISS CLAIMS AGAINST DEFENDANTS VINCE McMAHON AND CHRIS IRVINE FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION

Defendants Vince McMahon and Chris Irvine hereby respectfully move this Court, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(2), to dismiss the claims against them on the basis that they are not subject to personal jurisdiction in this forum. In support of this Motion, Messrs. McMahon and Irvine respectfully submit the following Exhibits:

- Exhibit 1 First Interrogatories on Personal Jurisdiction Issue Submitted by Defendants Vince McMahon and Chris Irvine
- Exhibit 2 Plaintiff's Response to First Interrogatories on Personal Jurisdiction Issue

Exhibit 3 - Deposition of Larry Whistler

Exhibit 4 - Deposition of Vince McMahon

Exhibit 5 - Videotape of January 20, 2002 Royal Rumble (filed

separately)

Exhibit 6 - Deposition of Chris Irvine

Exhibit 7 - Affidavit of Melissa Manso

This Motion is based on the foregoing Exhibits, the pleadings herein, and all other matters of record. The grounds for this Motion are set forth more fully in the Memorandum filed contemporaneously herewith. Messrs. McMahon and Irvine hereby respectfully reserve their defense of lack of personal jurisdiction and make this appearance solely for the limited purpose of asserting that defense.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorneys for Defendants

Vince McMahon, and Chris Irvine, a/k/a

Chris Jericho, a/k/a Jericho

John L. Taylor, Jr.
Georgia Bar No. 700400
Celeste McCollough
Georgia Bar No. 487013
CHOREY, TAYLOR & FEIL
The Lenox Building, Suite 1700
3399 Peachtree Road, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30326

Phone: (404) 841-3200 Telecopier: (404) 841-3221

Of Counsel:

Jerry S. McDevitt
Curtis B. Krasik
Kirkpatrick & Lockhart
Henry W. Oliver Building
535 Smithfield Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222
(412) 355-6500
(412) 355-6501 (fax)

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

LARRY WHISTLER)
a/k/a LARRY ZBYSZKO)
a/k/a THE LIVING LEGEND,)
an individual,)
	Civil Action No. 1 02-CV-1008-CC
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.)
)
WORLD WRESTLING)
ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware	2)
Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an)
individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a)
CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an)
individual,)
)
Defendants.)
)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this day I served opposing counsel(s) of record with the foregoing MOTION TO DISMISS CLAIMS AGAINST DEFENDANTS VINCE McMAHON AND CHRIS IRVINE FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION via U.S. First Class Mail postage pre-paid to the following address:

Joel D. Myers, Esq.

Myers and Associates, P.C.

1827 Powers Ferry Road

Building 3, Suite 200

Atlanta, Georgia 30339

Ben C. Brodhead, Esq. Ben C. Brodhead, P.C. 235 Peachtree Street, N.E. Suite 400 Atlanta, Georgia 30303

This 13th day of February 2003.

Attorneys for Defendants

Vince McMahon, and Chris Irvine, a/k/a

Chris Jericho, a/k/a Jericho

Celeste McCollough Georgia Bar No. 487013 CHOREY, TAYLOR & FEIL The Lenox Building, Suite 1700 3399 Peachtree Road, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30326 Phone: (404) 841-3200

Telecopier: (404) 841-3221



EXHIBIT / ATTACHMENT

(To be scanned in place of tab)

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

LARRY WHISTLER a/k/a LARRY ZBYSZKO a/k/a THE LIVING LEGEND, an individual,	FILE COPY
Plaintiff,) Civil Action No. 102-CV-1008-CC
vs.)
WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an individual,)))))
Defendants.)

FIRST INTERROGATORIES ON PERSONAL JURISDICTION ISSUE SUBMITTED BY DEFENDANTS VINCE McMAHON AND CHRIS IRVINE

Defendants Vince McMahon and Chris Irvine, by and through their undersigned attorneys, without waiving their defense of lack of personal jurisdiction, but in express reliance thereon, pursuant to Rules 26 and 33 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and this Court's Order dated November 25, 2002, serve the following First Interrogatories on Personal Jurisdiction Issue for response by Plaintiff within thirty (30) days. You are requested and required to answer these

Interrogatories separately and fully in writing under oath and to serve a copy of said answers upon the undersigned within 30 days after service hereof.

DEFINITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS

The following definitions are applicable to terms employed in these Interrogatories:

- 1. "You" and "your" refer to the party to whom these interrogatories are addressed, as well as said party's agents, servants, employees or representatives. Information sought in these Interrogatories from you shall include information within the knowledge or possession of your agents and employees, attorneys, accountants, investigators (including investigators for your attorneys), and any other persons or firms directly or indirectly subject to your control in any way whatsoever.
- 2. "Person" or "persons" shall include any partnership, corporation, joint venture or other entity and shall also include any natural person or any government or governmental body, commission, board or agency.
- 3. "Document" means any written, recorded or graphic matter, however produced or reproduced, and whether or not now in existence, including but not limited to, correspondence, telegrams, photographs, notes or sound or visual recordings of any type of personal or telephone conversations, or of meetings or conferences, electronic mail, minutes of directors or committee meetings,

memoranda, inter-office communications, studies, analyses, reports, results of investigations, reviews, contracts, agreements, working papers, statistical records, ledgers, books of account, financial statements and journals, vouchers, bank checks, invoices, receipts, computer data, stenographer's notebooks, desk calendars, appointment books, and diaries or papers similar to any of the foregoing, however denominated. It includes all matter that relates or refers in whole or in part to the subjects referred to in an Interrogatory. If a document has been prepared in several copies, or additional copies have been made, and the copies are not identical (or which, by reason of subsequent modification, are no longer identical), each non-identical copy is a separate "document."

- 4. "Identify" or a request to state the "identity" of some person or thing means:
- (a) Wherever in these Interrogatories you are asked to "identify" or state the "identity" of a document, you shall specifically designate the type of document (i.e., letter, interoffice memorandum, report, etc.) and shall state information sufficient to enable the undersigned to identify the document, such as its date, the name of the addressee or addressees, the name of the signer or signers, the title or heading of the document, and its approximate number of pages; the identity and the address or addresses of the persons to whom copies were sent; and the present or

last known location of the possessor of the original of the document (or, if that is unavailable, the most legible copy).

- (b) Wherever in these Interrogatories you are asked to "identify" or state the "identity" of a person, you shall furnish information sufficient to enable the undersigned to identify the person, including: (i) in the case of a natural person, the person's name, present whereabouts (home address, employment address, telephone number), present position, prior relevant positions the person had held and similar identifying information; and (ii) in the case of an unnatural person or entity, the person's name, address, principal place of business, and the identity of any officer, representative, or agent of such person having knowledge or information concerning the subject matter of this Interrogatory.
- (c) Wherever in these Interrogatories you are asked to "identify" or state the "identity" of a communication, you shall indicate the date thereof, whether the communication was oral or written, (or, if the oral communication was recorded in any manner in a document) identify the person or persons who sent, received or had knowledge of the communication, and state the information communicated.
- 5. If you cannot answer any portion of the following Interrogatories in full, after exercising due diligence to secure the information to do so, so state, and answer to the extent possible, specifying your inability to answer the remainder,

and stating whatever information or knowledge you have concerning the unanswered portions.

- 6. If you claim privilege as to any document or communication as to which information is requested by these Interrogatories or as to any answer requested by these Interrogatories, specify the privilege claimed, the document, communication and/or answer as to which that claim is made, the topic discussed in the document or communication, and the basis on which you assert that claim.
- 7. Each Interrogatory should be separately answered, Interrogatories should not be combined for the purpose of supplying a common answer, and answers should not be supplied by reference to the answers of another Interrogatory, unless the answer is completely identical to the answer referred to.
- 8. These Interrogatories are continuing in nature, so as to require you to file supplementary answers if you obtain further or different information before trial.
- 9. Unless otherwise indicated, these Interrogatories refer to the time, place and circumstances of the occurrences mentioned or complained of in the pleadings.

INTERROGATORIES

1.

State each and every fact upon which you base your contention that the Defendant Vince McMahon is subject to personal jurisdiction in this Court.

2.

State each and every fact upon which you base your contention that the Defendant Chris Irvine a/k/a Chris Jericho a/k/a Jericho is subject to personal jurisdiction in this Court.

Respectfully submitted,

John L. Taylor, Jr.

Georgia Bar No. 700400

Celeste McCollough

Georgia Bar No. 487013

CHOREY, TAYLOR & FEIL

The Lenox Building, Suite 1700

3399 Peachtree Road, N.E.

Atlanta, Georgia 30326

Phone: (404) 841-3200

Telecopier: (404) 841-3221

Attorneys for Defendants

Vince McMahon, and Chris Irvine, a/k/a

Chris Jericho, a/k/a Jericho

Of Counsel:

(Applications to appear pro hac vice in process)

Jerry S. McDevitt

Curtis B. Krasik

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart

Henry W. Oliver Building

535 Smithfield Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

(412) 355-6500

(412) 355-6501 (fax)

CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to Local Rule 7.1D, counsel for Defendants hereby certify that this document has been prepared with Book Antigua (13 point).

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

LARRY WHISTLER a/k/a LARRY ZBYSZKO a/k/a THE LIVING LEGEND, an individual,)))
Plaintiff,) Civil Action No. 1 02-CV-1008-CC)
VS.))
WORLD WRESTLING)
ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware)
Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an)
individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a)
CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an)
individual,)
Defendants.))
	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

A copy of the First Interrogatories on Personal Jurisdiction Issue Submitted by Defendants Vince McMahon and Chris Irvine was served by telecopier and hand delivery upon the following:

Joel D. Myers, Esq. Myers and Associates, P.C. 1827 Powers Ferry Road Building 3, Suite 200 Atlanta, Georgia 30339 Telecopier: (770) 541-7448 This 18 day of December, 2002.

Celeste McCollogh Georgia Bar No. 487013 CHOREY, TAYLOR & FEIL

The Lenox Building, Suite 1700

3399 Peachtree Road, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30326

Phone: (404) 841-3200 Telecopier: (404) 841-3221

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EXHIBIT / ATTACHMENT

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ORIGINAL

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

LARRY WHISTLER a/k/a LARRY ZBYSZKO a/k/a THE LIVING LEGEND, an individual,)))	
Plaintiff,)))	Civil Action No. 1-02-CV-1008
V.)	1 02 07 1000
WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION)	
ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Connecticut)	
Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON,)	
an individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a)	
CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an)	
individual,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

PLAINTIFF'S RESPONSE TO FIRST INTERROGATORIES ON PERSONAL JURISDICTION ISSUE SUBMITTED BY DEFENDANTS VINCE MCMAHON AND CHRIS IRVINE

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, LARRY WHISTLER a/k/a LARRY ZBYSZKO a/k/a THE LIVING LEGEND (hereinafter "Plaintiff") in the above referenced action and responds to Defendants Vince McMahon and Chris Jericho's (hereinafter "Defendants") First interrogatories to Plaintiff as follows:

RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC NUMBERED PARAGRAPHS:

1.

Defendant McMahon made a personal appearance and personally wrestled at ROYAL RUMBLE 2002 in Atlanta, Georgia on or about January 20, 2002 at Philips Arena. Defendant Vince McMahon has transacted business within the State of Georgia on or about January 20, 2002 at Philips Arena. Defendant McMahon derived revenues from his personal appearance within the State of Georgia on or about January 20, 2002. As chairman of WWE, Defendant Vince McMahon has participated and caused unauthorized infringement of Plaintiff's mark within the State of Georgia by broadcasting pay-per-view events and televised weekly shows on MTV, TNN and UPN, wherein said pay-per-view and weekly televised shows are broadcast within the State of Defendant McMahon has authorized pay-per-view events broadcast within the State of Georgia. Defendant McMahon has directed that magazines be distributed (i.e., WORLD WRESTLING MAGAZINE) within the State of Georgia, wherein the July 2002 issue of WORLD WRESTLING MAGAZINE (page 10) makes unauthorized use of Plaintiff's mark. Defendant Vince McMahon has personally appeared in said pay-per-view wrestling events and said weekly televised shows that have been broadcast within the State of Georgia.

2.

Defendant Irvine personally wrestled at ROYAL RUMBLE on January 20, 2002 in Atlanta, Georgia at Philips Arena.

Defendant Irvine has participated in wrestling events broadcast into Georgia via television and pay-per-view as specified above.

Defendant Irvine has promoted himself as the "LIVING LEGEND", wherein he knew or should have known was to be broadcast or sent into the State of Georgia.

Respectfully submitted,

Myers & Kaplan,

Intellectual Property Law L.L.C.

Dated: January 21, 2003 By:

Joel D. Myers

Attorney for Plaintiff

/ State of Georgia Bar No. 533147

Barry E. Kaplan, Of Counsel

Georgia Bar No. 406805

1827 Powers Ferry Road Building 3, Suite 200 Atlanta, Georgia 30339

Phone: 770-541-7444

Fax: 770-541-7448

Email: jmyers@mkiplaw.com

CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to Local Rule 7.1D, counsel for Defendants hereby certify that this document has been prepared with Courier New (12 point).



EXHIBIT / ATTACHMENT

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(To be scanned in place of tab)

In The Matter Of:

LARRY WHISTLER, et al. v.
WORLD WRESLTING FEDERATION, et al.

LARRY WHISTLER
January 27, 2003

VIDEOTAPE DEPOSITION

BROWN REPORTING, INC.

ATLANTA, AUGUSTA, COLUMBUS, MACON, ROME & SAVANNAH

1740 PEACHTREE STREET, N.W.

ATLANTA, GA USA 30309

(404) 876-8979 or (800) 637-0293

Original File 0127WHIS.ASC, 62 Pages Min-U-Script® File ID: 2415824577

Word Index included with this Min-U-Script®

		Page			Page 2
[1]	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRIC		[1]	APPEARANCES OF COUNSEL	
	FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT	OF GEORGIA	(2)		
[2]	ATLANTA DIVISION		[3]	On behalf of the Plaintiff:	
[3]			[4]	BEN C. BRODHÉAD, Esq.	
LA	RRY WHISTLER a/k/a)	j	Law Offices of Ben C. Brodhead, P.C.	
[4] L	ARRY ZBYSZKO a/k/a)	[5]	Suite 400	
TH	E LIVING LEGEND, an)		235 Peachtree Street, N.E.	
[5] ir	dividual,)	[6]	Atlanta, Georgia 30303	
[6]	Plaintiff,)	[7]		
) CIVIL ACTION	Ì	JOEL D. MYERS, Esq.	
[7]	VS.)	[8]	Meyers & Kaplan	
) FILE NO. 1-02-CV-1008		Building 3, Suite 200	
[8] V	ORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION)		[9]	1827 Powers Ferry Road	
EN	TERTAINMENT, INC., a)		Atlanta, Georgia 30339	
[9] (onnecticut corporation,)	[10]		
VIIV	ICE MCMAHON, an)	[11]	On behalf of the Defendants:	
[10] ir	ndividual, CHRIS IRVINE)	[†2]	CURTIS B. KRASIK, Esq.	
а	/k/a CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a)			Kirkpatrick & Lockhart, LLP	
[11] J	ERICHO, an individual,)	[13]	Henry W. Oliver Building	
[12]	Delendants.)	1	535 Smithfield Street	
[13]			[14]	Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2312	
	VIDEOTAPE DEPOSITION OF		[15]	CELESTE McCOLLOUGH, Esq.	
[14]				Chorey, Taylor & Feil	
	LARRY WHISTLER		[16]	The Lenox Building, Suite 1700	
[15]				3399 Peachtree Road, N.E.	
[16]	January 27, 2003		[17]	Atlanta, Georgia 30326-1148	
[17]	12:00 noon		[18]		
[18]			- 1	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Mr. John Tyler	
	Building 3, Suite 200		[19]		
[19]	1827 Powers Ferry Road		[20]		
	Atlanta, Georgia		[21]		
[20]			[22]		
[21]	Colleen B. Seidl, CCR-B-1113, RPF	R, CRR	[23]		
[22]			[24]		
[23]			[25]		
[24]					
[25]					

Page 3 [1] (Reporter disclosure made pursuant to [2] us know and we'll try to accommodate your question.

[2] Article 8.B. of the Rules and Regulations

By of the Board of Court Reporting of the

[4] Judicial Council of Georgia.)

LARRY WHISTLER,

181 having been first duly sworn, was examined and

n testified as follows:

EXAMINATION

BY MR. KRASIK:

Q: Good morning, Mr. Whistler. As I [10]

[11] introduced you outside, my name is Kirk Krasik, my

[12] colleague is Celeste McCollough. Together we're

[13] counsel for World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc.,

[14] Vince McMahon and Chris Irvine.

Before we get started, some technical [16] matters for the record. By appearing today we

[17] obviously are not waiving our arguments of personal

[18] jurisdiction with respect to Mr. McMahon and

[19] Mr. Irvine, and we are specifically appearing

[20] pursuant to the Court's order of December 31, 2002,

[21] governing discovery on the personal jurisdiction

[22] issue.

[9]

Mr. Whistler, as your counsel may have [23]

[24] explained to you, today's deposition will be limited

[25] to personal jurisdiction whether Mr. McMahon and

Page 4

[1] Mr. Irvine should appear in court in Georgia; and

[2] once that issue is resolved, we will take your

[3] deposition again on the merits of the case as a

[4] whole.

Pursuant to Georgia procedure, I guess I'm

[6] notifying that this is a deposition for

77 cross-examination. Any other technicalities?

MS. McCOLLOUGH: No, I think that's **[8]**

[9] all,

Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Mr. Whistler, have [10]

[11] you been deposed before?

A: No.

Q: No. This is a question and answer. As

[14] may have been explained to you, this is a question

[15] and answer session. Please make sure that your

[16] responses are audible even though we are on video so

[17] that madame court reporter can take down what you're

[18] saying.

I would also ask that you let me finish my

[20] question; that I, of course, will let you finish your

[21] answer so that we're not talking over each other.

A: It sounds fair. (22)

Q: And if you have any questions, please

[24] don't hesitate to ask and I will try to restate the

[25] question more clearly for you. And of course, if you

[1] would like to take a break at any point, please let

Page 5

Do you have any questions at this point?

A: No. [4]

Q: Can you tell us where you live,

[6] Mr. Whistler?

A: 425 Red Jacket Way, Alpharetta, Georgia. \square

MR. BRODHEAD: I apologize for, but I [8]

is would like to interject that by agreement

pop of counsel, all objections except to the

[11] form of the question and the responsiveness

[12] of the answer are reserved until the time

[13] of the use of the deposition, if that's

[14] agreeable with counsel?

[15] MR. KRASIK: Agreed.

MR. BRODHEAD: Thank you. [16]

Q: (By Mr. Krasik) For those of us not from 1117

[18] around here, could you generally describe where

[19] Alpharetta is?

A: Alpharetta is about — a suburb 30 miles [20]

[21] north of Atlanta, 25 miles north.

Q: And so presumably you stayed at your house

[23] last night, you didn't have to stay at a hotel for

[24] this deposition; is that right?

A: Right.

[25]

[1]

Page 6

[2] here today?

A: Well, 400 is a nasty road sometimes, but

μι today wasn't too bad, so about 35 minutes.

Q: And do you have homes anywhere else in the

Q: About how long did it take you to drive

[6] Country, Mr. Whistler?

A: No, not at this time.

Q: Where you have had homes in the past? Let

[9] me rephrase the question. As your - when your

[10] primary residence was in Alpharetta, did you ever

[11] have homes anywhere else in the country?

A: No. [12]

Q: Can you tell us what your employment is [13]

[14] today, sir?

A: Well, I'm a professional wrestler and

[16] that's what I have been my whole life, and right now

[17] I'm still wrestling for independent shows. I wrestle

[18] for the NWAT out of Nashville every Wednesday now.

[19] And still because of my name, I do appearances and

[20] autograph sessions and memorabilia shows, and then my

[21] livelihood like it's always been.

Q: And you said, sir, that you're wrestling [22]

[23] in Nashville every Wednesday?

A: Yeah. We started that last week and we'll

125] be doing it every Wednesday for the NWA group that's

[1] recently sprouted up.

Q: Are you - other than the one day in

DI Nashville, are you on average, do you travel at any

[4] other days of the week?

A: Yeah, I mean I fly out and go all over

[6] the place. It depends who calls. There's

[7] independent promoters all over the country, sometimes

overseas. But this Friday I'm flying out to do a

show out in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Q: On the average, sir, out of a 30-day

[11] month, could you tell us how many days you're on the

ng road?

A: It varies, because, you know, the [13]

independents — a lot of people run the shows, but

they all want you to Saturday. So anywhere from

maybe three to six, you know, shots a month.

Q: And, sir, are you the owner of any

[18] corporations?

A: No. 1191

[20] Q: Let me be more specific. I know that a

[21] lot of talent in the industry have loan out

[22] corporations for their services. Do you have any

[23] kind of loan out corp? Are you the owner of any loan

[24] out corporation for your services?

A: No. [25]

MR. BRODHEAD: And did you understand

what a loan out corporation is? [2]

THE WITNESS: Not really. [3]

MR. BRODHEAD: Okay, and I'm going to [4]

is just for the record here, because he's not

[6] been in a deposition before. If there's

[7] ever a time that you don't understand a

[8] question or a term, it's important that you

ask him to explain that term.

THE WITNESS: Okay. [10]

MR. BRODHEAD: And so if you don't

[12] understand a loan out corporation, I'm

certain that we'll explore that now.

Q: (By Mr. Krasik) My definition, if you're

not the owner of any corporation, you're not familiar

with it, I think that answers the question.

That would be a corporation of which you [17]

were the owner, principal owner, that enters into

contracts for your services. You're not involved in

[20] any kind of relationship like that?

A: Well, I'm an independent contractor. [21]

[22] Right now I'm not under contract to anybody

[23] specifically. I just independently for different

[24] people all the time.

Q: Okay. Thank you, sir.

A: If that makes any sense. [1]

Q: Mr. Whistler, can you tell us, have you

p had any communication, have you spoken to Vince

Page 9

Page 10

[4] McMahon in the last five years?

A: I haven't spoken to Vince McMahon in 20

[6] years.

Q: Have you spoken to Chris Irvine in the

[8] last five years?

A: Maybe a wee bit when he was with WCW down

[10] here out of Atlanta, when Turner/Time Warner and

[11] Jericho was one of our younger guys starting off and

[12] I was, you know, with WCW for twelve years. So I

[13] probably did talk to him some years ago.

Q: Since Mr. Irvine came to WWE, have you

[15] spoken to him?

A: No. I haven't. [16]

Q: Sir, have you spoken to anyone at World

[18] Wrestling Entertainment about this lawsuit?

A: About the lawsuit, no.

Q: Have you spoken to anyone — Strike that, [20]

[21] Have you spoken to anyone at World

[22] Wrestling Entertainment about the facts underlying

[23] this lawsuit, your allegation that the company, the

[24] defendants have used your trademark "Living Legend"?

A: Well, I have. When they first started

Page 8

(i) using my trademark, I spoke to Mr. Jim Ross, who is

[2] your vice president of talent and an associate of

p mine, you know, from years and years and at that time

[4] I said "Jim, you know you guys are using my

[5] trademark, my phone is ringing off the wall." I

[6] said, "People think I'm coming up to work for you

guys," I said, "but because your ratings are low and

[8] your business is down," I said, "we've got a hell of

pj a shot to do some good business here."

And I talked to Jim and ran some ideas by

[11] him, and he said he would run it by Vince, because

[12] Vince is the guy. But then, of course, I didn't get

[13] a reply from Jim, I just got a call from

[14] Mr. Kaufman. So that was the last I talked to

[15] anybody in the WWE.

Q: And do you recall approximately when that

[17] took place, that conversation took place?

[18] A: With J.R.?

Q: Yes. [19]

A: December. [20]

Q: And that would be December 2001? [21]

A: That would be December 2001, Probably [22]

sometime, I'm not exactly sure, middle, second, third

[24] week in December, I'm pretty sure it was before

1251 Christmas.

Page 11 Q: And when you refer to some ideas that you 2 discussed with Mr. Ross, can you be any more spec m what did those ideas pertain to? MR. BRODHEAD: And I'm going to [5] object at least just to question this. I n know that we're limited to jurisdiction only in this one, and this seems to be [8] going into substantive matters that are -[9] and if there's some basis for this being po related to jurisdiction, I understand, but (ii) I think this sounds more like substantive [12] questions. MR. KRASIK: I don't intend to get [14] into substance and I don't intend to take [15] this very far. I was just now asking what [16] the substance of that communication with ил Mr. Ross was and then we're going to leave

[19] MR. BRODHEAD: Okay.

[18] the topic.

[20] THE WITNESS: Should I answer that?

gij MR. BRODHEAD: Yes. Go ahead.

[22] THE WITNESS: Well, the subject was

[23] basically how the WWF at the time, now the

[24] WWE, and myself could work out a business

[25] deal and make a lot of money together;

[1] because when they had taken my trademark,

[2] they opened the door to a great

pp possibility. Obviously they just refused

[4] to use it and then started the legalities.

[5] **Q**: (By Mr. Krasik) And when you say "make a

[6] great deal of money together," are you referring to

[7] you performing for WWE?

[8] A: Oh, yeah. I ran by ideas involving my

[9] participation in the WWE.

[10] MR. KRASIK: Do you have exhibit

[11] stickers?

121 THE COURT REPORTER: What kind would

[13] you like? I have Plaintiff's, I have -

[14] MR. KRASIK: These would be

[15] Defendants.

[16] THE COURT REPORTER: Okay.

[17] MR. KRASIK: Thank you.

[18] (Whistler Exhibits 1 and 2 were marked

[19] for identification.)

m MR. KRASIK: This is going to be

[21] Exhibit 1 and Exhibit 2, I'm going to hand

[22] them to the witness together.

23] MR. BRODHEAD: Go ahead.

[24] Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Mr. Whistler, I'm going

[25] to show you two documents that have been marked as

10 11

2] MR. BRODHEAD: Should we just go with

Page 13

Page 14

pl Defendant's I and Defendant's 2,

Zbyszko Exhibit 1 — Strike that.

μ] MR. KRASIK: I prefer to mark it by

[5] name just because I find it's easier to run

[6] through, if that's okay.

[7] Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Whistler Exhibit 1 are

is the first interrogatories of personal jurisdiction

[9] issues submitted by defendants Vince McMahon and

not Chris Irvine.

[11] Whistler Exhibit 2 are Plaintiff's

[12] response to first interrogatories on personal

[13] jurisdiction issues submitted by defendants Vince

[14] McMahon and Chris Irvine.

[15] Take a minute, sir, to refresh your, to

[16] read the documents.

[17] A: Plaintiff's response.

[18] Q: If I could specifically direct your

[19] attention, sir. Please take as much time as you

[20] need, but to specifically direct your attention to

[21] page 5 of Whistler Exhibit 1, what's marked as

[22] Interrogatory 1. Is it clear to you where we are,

[23] Sir?

[24] A: I think I wasn't very good in school

[25] either.

Page 12

[1] MR. BRODHEAD: It's going to be this

[2] interrogatory here.

[3] THE WITNESS: Okay.

4] MR. BRODHEAD: And then it's going to

[5] be the response. This will be the response

[6] to that question.

[7] THE WITNESS: Okay.

[8] Q: (By Mr. Krasik) And, sir, since it's

191 long, I'll read it into the record, but I want you to

not confirm that it's what I'm reading is accurate, if

[11] you would, please.

[12] A: Okay.

[12] **Q**: That Interrogatory 1 reads:

"State each and every fact upon which

[15] you base your contention that the defendant

[16] Vince McMahon is subject to personal

[17] jurisdiction in this court."

[10] Is that accurate, sir? And the response

[19] says, reads:

[20] "Defendant McMahon made a personal

21 appearance and personally wrestled at Royal

[22] Rumble 2002 in Atlanta, Georgia, on or

[23] about January 20, 2002, at Phillips Arena.

[24] Defendant Vince McMahon has transacted

psj business within the State of Georgia on or

Page 15 Page 17 [1] about January 20, 2002, at Phillips Arena. [1] television and Pay-Per-View as specified [2] Defendant McMahon derived revenues from his 2] above. Defendant Irvine has promoted m personal appearance within the State of is himself as, quote, Living Legend, close [4] Georgia on or about January 20, 2002. As [4] quote, wherein he knew or should have known [5] chairman of WWE, defendant Vince McMahon [5] was to be broadcast or sent into the State [6] has participated and caused the [6] of Georgia." m unauthorized infringement of Plaintiff's Is that accurate? [7] [8] mark within the State of Georgia by A: You read that accurately. (B) 191 broadcasting Pay-Per-View events and Q: Have you seen either Whistler Exhibit 2 or [10] televised weekly shows on MTV,TNN and UPN, Whistler Exhibit — I'm sorry — Whistler Exhibit 1 [11] wherein said Pay-Per-View and weekly [11] or Whistler Exhibit 2? [12] televised shows are broadcast within the A: Wait, Have I seen it? [12] [13] State of Georgia. Defendant McMahon has [13] Q: Before today? [14] authorized Pay-Per-View events broadcast A: Have I read this before today? [[14] [15] within the State of Georgia, Defendant Q: Correct. [151 [16] McMahon has directed that magazines be A: Yes. [16] μη distributed, parenthesis, i.e. World Q: Yes? ודיון [18] Wrestling Magazine, close parenthesis, A: Yes, I did. l (181 [19] within the state of Georgia. Wherein the Q: And that would be, did you read the [19] [20] July 2002 issue of World Wrestling [20] response that I read from Whistler Exhibit 2? (21) Magazine, parenthesis, page 10, close [21] [22] parenthesis, makes unauthorized use of Q: Okay. And did you review these responses [23] Plaintiff's mark, Defendant Vince McMahon [23] before they were sent to us by your attorneys? [24] has personally appeared in said A: Yes. [24] [25] Pay-Per-View wrestling events and said MR. KRASIK: Counsel, we would ask (25)Page 16 Page 18 [1] weekly televised shows that have been in for a signed verification on the [2] broadcast within the State of Georgia." [2] interrogatories. We didn't get that in the Did I read that response accurately, sir? [3] ordinary course. [3] A: Yes, you did. [4] MR. BRODHEAD: Yes. Q: And if I could ask you to please look back Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Sir. as you listen to me [6] to Whistler Exhibit 1 for a moment to page 6 [6] read the responses to Interrogatory 1 and underneath the two at the top. [7] Interrogatory 2, do these reflect all facts of which Interrogatory 2 reads: [B] [8] you were aware that, on which you base your argument [9] "State each and every fact upon which you [9] that Mr. McMahon and Mr. Irvine are subject to [10] base your contention that the Defendant [10] jurisdiction in Georgia? [11] Chris Irvine a/k/a Chris Jericho a/k/a MR. BRODHEAD: I'm going to object to [12] Jericho is subject to personal jurisdiction [12] the form of the question in that I believe, [13] in this court." [13] and I apologize, I started to get a little Did I read that correctly, sir? [14] [14] bit lost in there. It sounded like it was A: Yes [15] [15] a mixture of a compound and calling for Q: That's Interrogatory 2. And then if I [16] legal conclusion. [17] could ask you, please, to look back at Whistler Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Well, I'm asking, sir, [18] Exhibit 2 to the response, and again confirm that I'm [18] whether you were aware of any facts that are not in [19] reading accurately. [19] here on which you base your argument that Mr. McMahon A: Okay. [20] [20] and Mr. Irvine can be sued in Georgia. Q: "Defendant Irvine personally wrestled at A: I'm not sure I'm clear on that. [21] [22] Royal Rumble a January 20, 2002, in MR. BRODHEAD: You can answer to the [22] [23] Atlanta, Georgia at Phillips Arena. [23] extent that you understand the question. I [24] Defendant Irvine has participated in [24] mean, and if it's not clear, you can प्रज wrestling events broadcast into Georgia via

[25] explain — do you understand which part is

	Page 19			Page 21
[1]	not clear to you?	[1]	A: Well, it did.	. –3• – .
[2]	THE WITNESS: Well, I just — would	[2]	Q: And how do you know that?	
[3]	you repeat that, please?	[3]	A: Well, it's on video.	
[4]	Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Sure. Mr. Whistler, I'm	[4]	Q: Did you go to the event?	
[5]	in no way trying to confuse you. I'm just trying to	[5]	A: I didn't go to the event in person, no,	
[6]	determine —		but, you know —	
[7]	A: I'm just a wrestler.	[T]	Q: Have you watched it?	
[8]	Q: I understand.	[e]	A: — I saw it on tape.	
[9]	A: Quite a wrestler in your day, of course.	[6] [0]	Q: You've seen it on video?	
[10]	MR. BRODHEAD: And I think the issue	[10]	A: Oh, certainly.	
[11]	is, is that you're asking him on what	[11]		
[12]	arguments he is currently making about		entire tape or only excerpts of the tape?	
[13]	personal jurisdiction; and in all honesty,	[13]		
[14]	the arguments that are being made are legal		skipped the preliminary bouts.	
[15]	arguments. And I think that if we're	[15]	Q: Other than the preliminary bouts, would	
[16]	asking about underlying facts that perhaps	1	you say you watched substantially all the tape?	
[17]	supported such as —	[17]	A: No, not all of it. I've seen, you know, a	
[18]	MR. KRASIK: I tried to ask it that	1	million wrestling matches, so I kind of just got to	
[19]	way. If it was confusing, I apologize.	1	the point.	
[50]	MR. BRODHEAD: No, I understand.	[20]	Q: Okay. Did you see the bout in which	
[21]	MR. KRASIK: And I'm only asking as	[21]	Mr. McMahon wrestled during that show?	
[22]	to facts.	[22]	A: No, I didn't see it. I heard about it,	
[23]	MR. BRODHEAD: And I understand that	[23]	but I didn't specifically watch Vince wrestle Flair.	
	and I was thinking that maybe you could ask	[24]	Q: But you are aware that he wrestled Ric	
[25]	facts specific to the question, like do you	[25]	Flair, aren't you?	
	Page 20			Page 22
[1]	know of things that were said in Georgia,	[1]	A: Oh, yes.	_
	times that he was in Georgia, things along	[2]	Q: Do you have any knowledge, Mr. Whistler,	
	those lines or however. But just when it's	[3]	whether Mr. McMahon spoke the words "Living Leg	end"
	coming to a legal argument, I think that's	[4]	during his performance?	
	where we're — I think that's where the	[5]	A: During his performance at the Royal	
	problem is and I think that's where he's	[6]	Rumble?	
Ŋ	having confusion.	[7]	Q: Yes.	
[8]	Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Mr. Whistler, all I'm	[8]	A: I don't believe he used it at that time.	
	trying to establish is that these responses are	[9]	Q: Well, I was going to get to this in a	
	complete, are comprehensive, there's nothing else out	1	moment, but since you referenced it that way, do yo	
	there that you know of factwise.	1	have firsthand knowledge that Mr. McMahon at any	time
[12]	Do you know of any facts that aren't in	[12]	personally spoke the words "Living Legend"?	
	these responses that go to Mr. McMahon or Mr. Jericho's contacts with Georgia?	[13]	A: Oh, yes, sir, I do. I have it on video.	
	A: Well, I would say that the facts that are	[14]	Q: And when were those times?	
[15]	-	[15] 	A: In January, February, March — I believe	
	in here, you know, the fact that they wrestled here and promoted here and showed television shows here	1.	it was in April and Mr. McMahon came on the	
	and sell products here and et cetera, that I think		television during the Smack Down Show, which was	
	pretty much covers it.	1	taped on Tuesday. Then it's edited on Wednesday and	
	Q: Are you aware of anything else as you sit		shown on UPN Thursday evening, and at that particular Ma Maham dealers do a great had a in Capacita	
[20]	here today that is not in here?	1	time Mr. McMahon declared to everybody in Georgi	a and
(22 <u>]</u>	A: Not at this specific moment in time.		all over the country that the Chris and Jericho, and	
[23]	Q: Okay. Mr. Whistler, you claim here that	ļ	I quote, is wrestling "The Living Legend."	
ادعا	the Point Pumble 2002 took place in Atlanta on on	[23]	Q: And your best recollection was that was in	

[24] the Royal Rumble 2002 took place in Atlanta on or

25] about January 20, 2002; is that right?

A: Yes, sir, because he did it after he was

[24] April 2002?

- [1] served with the complaints.
- [2] Q: As you sit here today, are you aware of
- [3] any other instances in which Vince McMahon personally
- [4] spoke the words "Living Legend"?
- 51 A: Not on television.
- [6] Q: Going back to the Royal Rumble 2002, do
- [7] you have any knowledge that Ric Flair spoke the words
- [8] "Living Legend" during his match with Vince McMahon?
- 191 A: I don't know.
- [10] **Q**: Do you have any personal knowledge that
- [11] anyone spoke the words "Living Legend" during Vince
- [12] McMahon's match with Ric Flair?
- [13] A: I don't know that specifically,
- [14] Q: Do you know, sir, whether Chris Jericho,
- [15] Mr. Irvine appearing as the character Chris Jericho,
- [16] was involved in Mr. McMahon's match with Mr. Flair in
- [17] any way?
- [18] A: I don't believe he was.
- [19] Q: Do you know, sir, who Chris Jericho
- [20] wrestled at that Royal Rumble?
- [21] A: Oh, yeah, he was the main event of the
- [22] world championship against the Rock.
- [23] Q: And did you watch that match, sir?
- [24] A: Parts of it. I fast forward, I invented
- [25] matches.

- Page 24
- Q: Sir, do you recall Strike that.
- [2] Would you agree, sir, that Mr. McMahon's
- [3] match with Ric Flair was part of a story line going
- [4] on at that time?
- [5] A: Well, I don't know what the WWE story
- [6] lines were. I know why Vince wrestled Flair here,
- [7] but I don't know what their story line was.
- [8] Q: What is your understanding, sir?
- [9] A: Well, Vince McMahon because of who he is
- [10] and his television notoriety is probably one of the
- [11] biggest stars the WWE has. So Vince McMahon
- [12] purposely put himself on the show at the Phillips
- [13] Arena in Atlanta to wrestle Ric Flair who for years
- [14] and years was known as a WCW kind of southern guy.
- us So now you had the conflict between Vince McMahon,
- [16] the big chief of the north, against Flair, the nature
- (17) boy of the south, and it was done specifically
- [18] because that was the match that would help draw the
- [19] most money possible for the WWE and their buy rate.
- [20] Q: Were you aware at the time that in the WWE
- [21] story line Vince McMahon was being portrayed Vince
- [22] McMahon and Ric Flair were being portrayed as
- [23] co-owners of the WWE?
- [24] A: I remember the time Flair was pretending
- 25] to be, you know, one of the owner things, but I don't

- [1] remember their exact story line.
 - [2] Q: But you generally remember that there was
- [3] a time when Ric Flair and Vince McMahon were being
- [4] portrayed on air as co-owners of the WWE?
- 5] A: Something like that, It's kind of
- [6] confusing. When they bought WCW, they kind of messed
- m up the program.
 - **Q**: To your knowledge, sir Strike that.
- P Do you have any knowledge, sir, that Ric
- 10] Flair actually was co-owner of the WWE for any time?
- [11] A: Flair doesn't have any money.
- [12] Q: So that —
- (13) A: I mean, no.
- [14] Q: So to your understanding, sir, that was
- [15] just part of the story line?
- [16] A: Yes, sir.
- [17] Q: And did anything about that story line
- [18] involve Chris Jericho?
- [19] A: I really don't recall, I mean, I don't
- po believe so, because Jericho was getting his push as
- [21] "the Living Legend" and "The New Undisputed Champion"
- [22] against the Rock and then Austin and then for Wrestle
- [23] Mania, so.
- [24] Q: Going back to Chris Jericho's match with
- [25] the Rock, which I believe you said you watched
- Page 26

- [1] portions of. During that performance at the Royal
- Rumble 2002, did Mr. Irvine speak the words "Living
- [3] Legend"?
- [4] A: I don't recall if he spoke the words
- [5] "Living Legend," but I recall that there was footage
- [6] added or something that used the term "the Living
- и Legend" of a promotional footage.
- [8] Q: You recall promotional footage?
- [9] A: Within the Pay-Per-View tape.
- [10] Q: And do you have any knowledge, sir, how
- [11] that promotional footage was put together?
- [12] A: I don't. You have to ask Mr. Dunn that.
- [13] **Q:** Do you have any knowledge, sir, of from
- (14) where the audio portion of that footage would have
- us been taken?
- [16] **A**: No.
- [17] **Q:** Would it be fair to say, sir, that from
- [18] what you saw, Mr. Irvine standing in the arena never
- [19] spoke the words "Living Legend"?
- [20] A: I don't believe he personally did that
- (21) night.
- [22] Q: To your knowledge, sir, did anyone else
- [23] speak the words "Living Legend" other than the
- promotional video you referred to during the 2002
- ps Royal Rumble?

- [1] A: I'm not positive.
- [2] Q: To your knowledge, sir?
- A: I mean to my knowledge, I don't think so.
- [4] Q: Do you have any knowledge, sir, of whether
- [5] Mr. McMahon personally participated in Chris Jericho
- [6] and The Rock's match that night?
- [7] A: I don't know. I don't think so.
- [8] Q: You're familiar with the term "agent" in
- me the wrestling business, sir?
- [10] A: Yeah.
- [11] Q: For the record, can you explain what
- [12] "agent" means, what your understanding of "agent"
- [13] means?
- [14] A: Well, I'm not sure if my definition of a
- [15] wrestling agent is the same as how Vince uses them.
- [16] I mean I know some guys who are agents, but I don't
- in know exactly what their responsibilities are as
- [18] agents
- [19] **Q**: However you would describe it, sir?
- [20] A: Well, I guess an agent would be somebody
- [21] like who was behind the scenes that, from my
- [22] understanding, they kind of help the younger guys put
- [23] their match together, because the agents are usually
- [24] older guys.
- [25] Q: Would it be fair to say they script, they
- Page 28
- [1] put together high points of a match?
- [2] A: Yeah, it would be fair to say they help
- B) the guys put together a match that makes sense.
- [4] **Q**: And they communicate the finish of the
- is match to the talent usually?
- [6] A: Sometimes.
- [7] **Q**: Do you have any knowledge that Mr. McMahon
- 📵 acted as agent for Jericho Chris Jericho's match
- (9) with Rock that night?
- [10] A: I wouldn't know what happened behind the
- [11] scenes.
- [12] Q: You're familiar with the term "promos,"
- [13] Mr. Whistler?
- [14] A: Uh-huh.
- [15] Q: How would you define "promos" for the
- [16] record?
- [17] A: Well, promos like an interview.
- [18] Q: Do you have any information that
- [19] Mr. McMahon scripted any promos for Chris Jericho's
- [20] performance that night?
- A: I wouldn't know. I mean Mr. McMahon hires
- [22] writers, so they write and then Vince yeas or nays or
- [23] interjects; but I really wouldn't know what happened
- that night. They wouldn't let me in the building.
- [25] **Q:** Did you attempt to go to the match?

- [1] **A**: No.
 - [2] Q: So when you said "they didn't let you in
 - m the building," that was just being facetious?
 - (4) A: They wouldn't have, yes.
 - g Q: Mr. Whistler, would you do you have any
 - [6] knowledge of whether Mr. McMahon had any involvement

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- in putting together the promotional footage that you
- (a) referred to earlier that was played during Mr. the
- [9] Chris Jericho-Rock match?
- [10] A: I have no knowledge of, you know, that.
- 111 Q: Sir, do you have any personal knowledge of
- [12] whether Mr. McMahon was paid money for his
- (13) performance that night?
- A: I don't know anything about Mr. McMahon's
- [15] personal accounts.
- [16] MR. KRASIK: Let me mark another document.
- (17) (Whistler Exhibit 3 was marked
- [18] for identification.)
- 19] Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Mr. Whistler, I've marked
- [20] these documents that were produced to us by your
- [21] attorneys as Whistler Exhibit 3. Take a moment to
- [22] look at those.
- [23] Can you tell us what those are, sir?
- [24] A: Well, I believe this is the copy of the
- [25] cover of the Royal Rumble videotape.
- [1] **Q**: And did you purchase this videotape, sir,
- [2] yourself?
- [3] A: No.
- [4] **Q**: If I could direct your attention to the
- is second page at the list of matches below the 30 Man
- [6] Royal Rumble, the first listed match after the Royal
- [7] Rumble reads "Undisputed WWF championship Chris
- [8] Jericho versus the Rock"
 - A: Right.
- (o) Q: is that accurate?
- [11] And sir, is it fair to say that the words
- [12] "Living Legend" do not appear anywhere in connection
- pay with that match?
- [14] A: Well, I don't see it on this.
- [15] Q: On this sheet, okay. And, sir, if you
- [16] look at the next listed match, it reads "Street
- ил fight, parenthesis, no DQ," which would refer to
- [18] disqualification?
- [19] **A:** Right.
- [20] Q: "No count out, close parenthesis, Vince
- [21] McMahon versus Ric Flair." Is that accurate?
 - zj A: Yes.
 - Q: And on this sheet in connection with the
- [24] listing of this match, is it fair to say that you
- [25] don't see the words "Living Legend" anywhere?

- [1] A: No, I don't see them on this.
- [2] Q: And, sir, if you would, would you take a
- moment to look at the, this listing as a whole and
- [4] could you tell us, please, whether you see the words
- [5] "Living Legend" anywhere on the list of matches that
- [6] took place that night?
- [7] A: Not on the box, no.
- [a] Q: Thank you, sir.
- [9] Earlier, Mr. Whistler, I asked you whether
- [10] you had any knowledge whether Mr. McMahon had any
- [11] involvement in putting together the promotional
- [12] footage that you spoke about. Do you have any
- [13] knowledge whether Mr. Irvine/Chris Jericho had any
- [14] involvement in putting together that footage?
- [15] A: I wouldn't know.
- [16] Q: Sir, earlier you testified that Vince
- [17] McMahon had used the word "Living Legend" on a Smack
- [18] Down program you thought was in April 2002?
- [19] A: Well, it was in April. I don't know the
- [20] exact date.
- [21] Q: Do you know where that Smack Down taping
- [22] was taking place?
- [23] A: Where it was filmed at? I don't recall
- [24] offhand.
- [25] Q: And when we were talking about that

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- [1] earlier, you said that was the only instance you
- [2] could recall Mr. McMahon speaking the words "Living
- B Legend" on television. Are there other instances not
- [4] on television you're aware of in which Mr. McMahon
- [5] spoke those words?
- [6] A: Not on television?
- [7] **Q**: Not on television.
- [8] A: No, I'm not aware of anything he says in
- [9] private or.
- [10] **Q**: Anything at a live show that you're aware
- [11] Of?
- [12] A: No. I haven't gone to any live shows.
- [13] **Q**: And, sir, are you aware of Mr. Irvine as
- [14] Chris Jericho using the words "Living Legend" on WWE
- (15) television programs?
- [16] A: Am I aware of it? Oh, yeah.
- [17] Q: Could you tell us which ones you're aware
- [18] of as you sit here today?
- [19] A: Which specific shows?
- [20] Q: Time period, any specific you can be?
- [21] A: Well, the time period started somewhere
- 22] around the middle of December. I mean these are all
- [23] on videotapes. In December, January, February and
- [24] then into March and then after March. I mean I've
- 251 got them all copied on videotapes, all the shows, but

- [1] he was on Smack Down for a while. Then he moved, you
- [2] know, when they did the Raw Smack Down split, then he
- B) moved over to Raw. He might have quit using it by
- [4] then. I don't know exactly. All I know is I got
- [5] about four and a half months worth of tapes somewhere
- [6] around there of all the shows where he used it.
- [7] **Q:** And can you describe for us, sir Strike
- (8) that.
- [9] Mr. Whistler, do you have any knowledge
- [10] that Mr. McMahon was personally involved in any of
- [11] those times Mr. Irvine used the words "Living
- [12] Legend," spoke the words "Living Legend"?
- [13] A: Say that one more time.
- [14] **Q**: The question was: Do you have any
- ប្រទា knowledge that Mr.McMahon had any involvement in any
- [16] of the times Mr. Irvine used or spoke the words
- [17] "Living Legend"?
- [18] MR. BRODHEAD: I think I'm going to
- [19] object to that being vague as in what
- [20] involvement. I mean like moving his lips
- [21] or I don't know what you mean by that. I
- [22] mean you can answer that, I guess, but to
- [23] the extent that you can answer that, but.
- [24] THE WITNESS: Well, I don't know what
- [25] happens back stage. I mean I don't know if

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- [1] Vince ever went up to Jericho and said make
- [2] sure you go out and say, you know, you are
- [3] the Living Legend or not, I don't know
- [4] what happens behind or at the production
- [5] meetings of, I just was not there, I just
- [6] see, you know, what they did on TV.
- 7] Q: (By Mr. Krasik) So you don't have any
- [8] personal knowledge of whether Mr. McMahon directed
- [9] Chris Jericho to speak the words "Living Legend"?
- [10] A: Well, I don't know if he directed him to
- [11] do that.
- [12] Q: And you don't have any personal knowledge
- [13] whether Mr. McMahon scripted any promos in which
- [14] Chris Jericho spoke the words "Living Legend"?
- [15] A: I don't have any.
- [16] **Q**: Sir, wouldn't you agree would you agree
- 117] that World Wrestling Entertainment programs are not
- [18] broadcast only in Georgia?
- [19] A: Well, they are broadcast all over the
- (20) world.
- [21] **Q:** They are broadcast all over the world, and
- [22] the broadcast including the world and all over the
- [23] United States; right?
- [24] A: (Witness nods head.)
- (25) Q: And is it fair to say that MTV and TNN are

(i) basic cable networks?

[2] A: I guess. I'm not an expert on cable

p systems, but yeah.

[4] Q: Well, sir, don't be too modest, you worked

is for a long time for World Championship Wrestling -

[6] A: Yeah.

Q: — which was owned by Turner Broadcasting?

A: You know, but like I said, I was a

[9] wrestler. You know, whether the correct term is

[10] cable or network, I mean it's not CBS or NBC, but.

[11] Q: You can see it all over the country on

[12] cable?

[13] **A:** But — yeah.

[14] Q: And UPN is a broadcast network you can see

[15] all over the country?

A: I believe that's even bigger than TNN, I

[17] think.

[18] Q: So would it be fair to say that WWE

[19] doesn't direct its programs anywhere in particular?

MR. BRODHEAD: I'm going to object to

(21) the extent that that's calling for a legal

[22] conclusion, I believe, and that's calling

[23] for something that's clearly outside of the

[24] witness's, well, scope of knowledge. I

[25] mean, and I've put my objection, obviously

Page 36

[1] broadcast company; isn't that right?

Q: But you'd agree, sir, it's not his

where WWE programs are seen?

[2] A: He doesn't own TNN or UPN. I don't, you

A: Well, that's right. Every month, you

[4] Pay-Per-View, whether it's here or not, they are

[7] in Nashville for your TNA tapings as well; right?

Q: And, sir, would it be fair to say that

[10] Mr. McMahon does not have a personal broadcast

A: I don't understand "personal broadcast

Q: Well, he didn't own a television station

A: I don't think he does, but you never know

Q: To your knowledge, sir, does Chris Irvine

Q: Would Mr. McMahon have any control over

A: Mr. McMahon has control over everything.

[19] as Chris Jericho have any control over where WWE

[5] doing business in Georgia.

us to your knowledge, right?

A: Yep.

[11] network?

[13] network."

[17] with Vince.

[20] programs are seen?

A: No.

[12]

[21]

[22]

[24]

[25]

[2] know, buy rates, you know, money again is coming out

(9) of Georgia to Connecticut. So every month. With the

Q: And you could do that if you were sitting

[3] know.

[4] Q: Do you have any knowledge, sir, that he

[5] would, that Mr. McMahon could restrict the broadcast

Page 37

Page 38

(6) of WWE shows in Georgia?

77 A: The only way he could restrict any shows

[8] in Georgia is what he would edit off his pretaped

[9] Shows.

[10] Q: And you have personal knowledge of this,

[11] sir?

[12] A: Well, I don't know what he specifically

tial does, but what I'm saying is if he showed a show in

[14] Georgia and he didn't want something to show on it,

he could edit it out. So he does have the power to

choose whether he leaves things in or edits things

[17] out. But other than that, I don't know what exactly

(18) he does.

[19] Q: And if Mr. McMahon were to edit things in

po or out, that would be available all over the country?

[21] A: If he did it on, yeah. You mean if — I

[22] guess. There's a lot of tricks you can do, you know,

[23] On TV.

[24] Q: Mr. Whistler, earlier you referenced that

25] Chris Jericho's character spoke the words "Living

[1] he can answer.

[2] Q: (By Mr. Krasik) You can answer if you

B) understand the question.

[4] A: Okay. The question is what?

s Q: The question was whether you would agreed

[6] that WWE programs aren't directed anywhere in

particular?

[8] MR. BRODHEAD: Same objections.

[9] THE WITNESS: They are directed everywhere

[10] specifically. I mean they play in all

[11] states, but they play in all states for one

[12] reason and that is, you know, to take their

[13] money out and ship it up to Connecticut.

[14] **Q**: (By Mr. Krasik) They are on at a

[15] particular time and if you want to watch them, you

[16] turn on the TV and they're there; right?

[17] A: If you want to watch wrestling, it's on

[18] TV.

[19] **Q**: And if you get cable television in

[20] Georgia, you can turn on MTV or TNN and get the cable

[21] wrestling shows; right?

[22] A: Yes.

[23] Q: And if you have access to Pay-Per-View

[24] programs in Georgia, you can turn on the TV and get

[25] WWE Pay-Per-View shows; right?

[1] Legend' on programs between approximately — not

[2] holding you to anything — December and March.

g That's December 2001 to March 2002?

[4] A: Yeah, roughly through December and in

[5] through April.

[6] Q: And do you recall, sir, whether other —

[7] excepting/leaving out the Royal Rumble, did any of

[8] those shows take - tape from Georgia?

A: Excluding the Royal Rumble, I mean I don't

[10] know. I know they run the shows in Georgia other

[11] than Atlanta, but I don't recall whether they did any

[12] tapings in Augusta or Macon or Columbus or, you know,

[13] anything like that.

[14] **Q:** As you sit here today, you don't know?

[15] A: Yeah.

[16] MR, KRASIK: Why don't we take a

[17] five-minute break.

[18] MR. BRODHEAD: Okay.

[19] (A recess was taken.)

[20] Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Mr. Whistler, just to go

[21] back briefly to one thing you said earlier. In

[22] describing your conversation with J.R., Jim Ross, up

[23] at the WWE, I believe you testified that you

presented some ideas to him and he said he would talk

[25] to Vince about them. Did Mr. Ross say anything else

Page 40

. . Taulaha has fida da la la la

(1) during that conversation that you recall? (2) MR. BRODHEAD: And I think I'm going

[3] to object to this being outside the scope

[4] Of —

[5] MR. KRASIK: And as I said, this is

[6] for just the very limited purpose of

[7] nailing down what was said in the

[8] conversation.

(9) MR. BRODHEAD: Right, and how does

[10] that relate to jurisdiction?

[11] MR. KRASIK: Well, it may, I mean

[12] they might use it.

[13] MS. McCOLLOUGH: It depends on what

[14] was said.

[15] MR. BRODHEAD: Okay. I mean, is

(16) that — that's the extent of the question

[17] that we're going into?

[18] MR. KRASIK: (Nods head.)

[19] MR. BRODHEAD: Go ahead.

20] THE WITNESS: Well, basically, like I said

[21] before, when they started, you know, using

[22] my trademark and my phone started ringing

[23] and, you know, because I'm a professional,

[24] I have been in this so long, bless you, I,

25) you know, looked on upon it as a perfect

[1] situation for a hell of a unique angle,

[2] which means money in the wrestling

By business. So I called J.R. and ran it past

[4] him and, you know, all Jim can say is "I'll

[5] ran it by Vince." And I ran by a couple of

[6] ideas, I'm going to get into all the ideas

m because they are good. But, you know, his

[8] response was "Well, I'll run it by Vince,"

p) which is all J.R. can do, and that was the

[10] last I heard from J.R.

[11] **Q:** (By Mr. Krasik) And did J.R. say anything

[12] else in the conversation that you recall?

[13] A: No, not really. No. I mean we're usually

[14] a lot more friendly; but after they took the

usi trademark and I called Jim, you could tell he was

[18] tentative on what he wanted to say because he knew

[17] what they did.

[18] **Q**: Sir, do you have any knowledge that

[19] Mr. McMahon ever used the words "Living Legend" in a

[20] WWE magazine?

21) A: Did Mr. McMahon use the words in a

[22] magazine?

[23] Q: Yes.

[24] A: I mean I know in the WWE magazine "the

[25] Living Legend" was used in conjunction with Chris

Page 42

Page 41

[1] Jericho, but I don't know if it was with Vince.

[2] Q: We'll get to that in one second. The

[3] first question was whether you have any knowledge

[4] that Mr. McMahon in an interview, quote, anything,

[5] used the word "Living Legend"?

161 A: I have no knowledge.

MR. KRASIK: Let me mark Whistler

[8] Exhibit 4. The documents are produced by

[9] your attorneys in discovery.

[10] (Whistler Exhibit 4 was marked

[11] for identification.)

[12] Q: (By Mr. Krasik) And would you agree this

[13] is the cover and page 10 from the July 2002 World

[14] Wrestling Magazine?

15] A: It looks like that to me.

16] **Q:** Thank you. And sir, for the record, can

117] you read the reference to "Living Legend" on the

[18] page, 10?

(19) A: "Chris Jericho, 2001, the self-proclaimed

[20] Living Legend was the first to unify the World

[21] Wrestling Federation in WCW world titles."

[22] Q: Does it appear anywhere else on this page?

[23] A: Certainly not that one. The gain, the

[24] rattle snake, the run. No, I don't see it anywhere

gs else on this page, just Jericho.

Q: Other than this page, are you aware as you [2] sit here today of any other references to "Living

B Legend" in any WWE magazines?

A: I don't know about all the magazines. I

[5] know they have been in magazines, but I don't know

[6] exactly or if they were in all the magazines, but

(7) they have been in magazines.

Q: So it's your understanding other magazines

p refer to "Living Legend"?

A: Well, we have a copy of one that does [10]

[11] here.

Q: Okay. Well, let's look at that then for a [12]

[13] second, if that would be helpful.

MR. KRASIK: Mark this Whistler

[15] Exhibit 5.

[16]

[25]

(Whistler Exhibit 5 was marked

[17] for identification.)

Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Is this the other

[19] magazine to which you're referring?

A: Yeah, this is an another one. This is

1211 Inside Wrestling.

Q: And this was another — other documents

produced in discovery, cover page and pages 50

[24] through 53 of Inside Wrestling Magazine.

Sir, to your knowledge, is Inside

Page 44

[1] Wrestling affiliated with World Wrestling [2] Entertainment?

A: Well, to be honest with you, I'm not sure.

[4] I mean, I think it used to be like a private

[5] magazine. But whether Vince is involved over the

[6] years with them or not, I don't know.

Q: You don't have any knowledge whether it's

[8] affiliated with World Wrestling Entertainment or not? A: I mean I'm not positive. It could be or

[10] it may not. It might be a private magazine because

[11] there are those too, but I don't know.

Q: As you sit here today, you're not sure?

A: Yeah. [13]

Q: Looking back at Whistler Exhibit 4, which [14]

[15] is the excerpt from the July 2002 World Wrestling

[16] Magazine. Is it fair to say, sir, that the reference

117 to "Living Legend" here is not a quote of Chris

[18] Irvine or Chris Jericho?

A: Would it be fair to say it's not a quote? [19]

Q: Yes. 1201

A: Well, professionally speaking in terms of [21]

[22] the wrestling business, the wrestling magazines quote

1231 what the stars say on television or what the

[24] announcers say about the stars or how they promote

the stars. Chris Jericho has been promoted as the

[1] Living Legend, so whether he specifically said it

12) here or the guy who sits in the office writing up the

p) magazine on the magazine staff, you know, would write

Page 45

[4] it down that way just because that's what is heard on [5] television.

Q: Sir. is this Chris Jericho speaking on

77 this page 10 of World Wrestling Magazine?

MR. BRODHEAD: I'm going to object to

[9] the extent the document speaks for itself

[10] and to the extent that it's argumentative

[11] in that I think you're asking him to

[12] contradict the plain language of what's

[13] listed in the document.

Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Is this Chris Jericho

us speaking on this page 10?

A: Well, it sounds like somebody in the WWE

[17] magazine is writing about him.

Q: Okay. Is it fair to say this is not an

[19] interview with Chris Jericho on this page 10?

A: It doesn't sound like an interview.

[21] Basically it's the WWE putting it in writing for all

[22] of its fans that Chris Jericho is the self-proclaimed

[23] Living Legend.

[24] Q: Okav.

A: So one way or another, it's a form of [25]

Page 46 (1) advertising Jericho as "the Living Legend."

Q: But all my question was, sir, is very

[3] simple, was, this isn't an interview with Jericho on

[4] this page, is it?

A: It doesn't look like one.

Q: And do you have any knowledge, sir, that

M Chris Jericho himself wrote this Evolution of the

[8] Gold article on page 10?

A: I doubt he wrote it.

Q: Do you have any knowledge, sir, that Chris

μη Jericho was involved in putting together this article

[12] in any way?

[13] A: I don't think so.

Q: Do you have any knowledge, sir, that Chris

[15] Jericho knew this Evolution of the Gold story was

pg going to be in the World Wrestling Magazine?

A: I don't know what Chris Jericho thinks.

Q: Sir, do you know, personally know what

[19] involvement Vince McMahon — Strike that.

Do you have any personal knowledge that

[21] Vince McMahon has involvement with World Wrestling

1221 Magazine?

A: I'm not sure. 1231

Q: Do you have any personal knowledge that

[25] Vince McMahon has involvement of where World

- [1] Wrestling Magazine is distributed?
- [2] A: Well, he's not Vince isn't going to
- [3] drive around distributing magazines to, you know, all
- [4] the stores. But, you know, Vince hires the
- [5] department and makes sure they do their jobs by
- [6] getting these magazines every possible place they can
- [7] get these magazines.
- [8] Q: So Vince as chairman of World Wrestling
- [9] Entertainment supervises the people who do the
- [10] magazine?
- [11] A: Well, yeah.
- [12] **Q**: Is that fair to say?
- [13] A: I mean he's hired the people to do the
- [14] magazine.
- [15] Q: And do you have any knowledge, sir, that
- [16] Vince McMahon specifically directed World Wrestling
- magazine to be distributed in Georgia?
- [18] A: I don't know. He would not be happy if it
- (19) wasn't distributed in Georgia.
- [20] Q: It's distributed all over; right?
- [21] A: Yes.
- [22] Q: As broadly as possible?
- [23] A: Anyplace he could make a dollar.
- [24] Q: Sir, if I could ask you to, please, look
- [25] at Whistler Exhibit 5, the Inside Wrestling Magazine.
 - Page 48
- [1] And if you would, please, take a moment to
- [2] familiarize yourself with the article on pages 50
- p through 53?
- [4] A: I cannot end the Living Legend at the same
- [5] time, Amazing, Okay, I read it over.
- [6] Q: Okay. If you look right above the bold
- ng quote on page 50, would you agree that the writer is
- [a] named Dan Murphy?
- (9) A: Dan Murphy, Why don't I see it?
- [10] **Q**: I think let me help you out there.
- [11] A: Oh, senior writer, Okay,
- [12] Q: Is that accurate?
- [13] A: That's what it says.
- [14] Q: It says here. Do you know Dan Murphy?
- [15] A: No. Not really.
- [16] **Q**: Do you know who he is?
- [17] A: No, not really, I mean there's been so
- [18] many magazine guys.
- [19] Q: You don't recall whether you've ever had a
- [20] conversation with Dan Murphy?
- [21] A: I don't recall. I do so many radio shows.
- [22] Q: Okay. Would you agree, sir, you don't
- [23] have any personal knowledge that Chris Jericho, Chris
- [24] Irvine as Chris Jericho actually said the things that
- [25] are attributed to him here?

- [1] A: Well, I have personal knowledge that, you
 - [2] know, of what I read in this article.
 - [3] **Q:** You weren't there when he was being
 - [4] interviewed?
 - [5] A: But I was not there when he was being
 - [6] interviewed.
 - [7] Q: And you didn't hear him actually say these
 - (8) things; is that right?
 - [9] A: I didn't hear him actually say these
 - [10] things.
 - [11] **Q**: Sir, in your experience in professional
 - (12) wrestling, isn't it true that wrestling magazines
 - [13] sometimes make up interviews?
 - [14] A: I've never written for a wrestling
 - [15] magazine. I mean I don't I don't know. I mean
 - [16] I've read some things in wrestling magazines that,
 - ил you know, that people say I said that I didn't say.
 - [18] I really don't know.
 - [19] **Q**: So in your experience, you're not familiar
 - (20) with a wrestling magazine making up an interview?
 - [21] A: I'm not familiar with it, I mean I don't
 - [22] work with magazines. I do what Jericho does. They
 - [23] interview me, I say things to put me in my angle
 - [24] over, like he did here, and then we move on.
 - **Q**: Have you heard of wrestling magazines

Page 50

- [1] making up interviews with wrestlers?
- [2] A: I've never really heard of it. I mean I
- [3] never went out of my way to ask anybody, but I have
- [4] no knowledge of exactly, you know, what writers do
- [5] with wrestling magazines.
- [6] Q: Do you have any knowledge, sir, from your
- নে experience in wrestling of wrestling magazines doing
- [8] interviews where the talent doesn't know they are
- of literate was where the talent doesn't know they are
- [9] talking to a writer?
- [10] A: No. No, because, you know, writers will
- [11] make sure the word gets back to the wrestlers that
- 112] they are a writer, because they want to get a story
- [13] in. Guys, you know, aren't going to stop and just
- [14] talk to any fan. They are going to want to make sure
- (15) the guy is a writer.
- [16] **Q**: You've never heard of that happening?
- [17] A: Never heard of?
- [18] **Q:** That practice happening, a talent talking
- [19] to someone, not knowing it was an interview for a
- [20] wrestling magazine?
- [21] A: Well, I can't speak for all the talent. I
- [22] never heard of it.
- [23] Q: Okay. And I assume, sir, that you
- [24] couldn't you have no personal knowledge of whether
- [25] Mr. Murphy made up this interview here?

Page	51 Page
[1] A: I have no personal knowledge of Mr. Murphy	[1] owns any stake in JAKKS Pacific?
[2] whatsoever.	[2] A: I wouldn't know that.
[3] MR. KRASIK: Are we on 6?	্র Q: And do you have any knowledge, sir,
[4] MR. BRODHEAD: I believe so, yes.	ы whether Mr. McMahon had any personal involvement in
[5] MR. KRASIK: Would you like me to	[5] the design of the packaging of this toy?
(6) mark the box?	[6] A: I wouldn't know that.
[7] MR. BRODHEAD: I prefer not. Why	[7] Q : Do you have any knowledge, sir, whether
[8] don't you mark the receipt. Or actually,	[8] Mr. Irvine had any personal involvement in the
19] why don't we just — we can identify that.	p packaging of this toy?
[10] Is there a place you want to mark it?	[10] A: I wouldn't know.
[11] MR. KRASIK: We'll mark the	[11] MR. KRASIK: Let's take a five minute
photocopy, but we're looking at the box.	[12] break. We might be done.
[13] MR. BRODHEAD: That's fine.	[13] (A recess was taken.)
[14] MR. KRASIK: And Plaintiff's counsel	[14] Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Mr. Whistler, for the
[15] will hold the exhibit.	[15] record, can you tes— did you personally purchase
[16] MR. BRODHEAD: Yes.	[16] this toy product?
[17] (Whistler Exhibit 6 was marked	A: I did not personally purchase this one. I
[18] for identification.)	[18] saw them in Wal-Mart, but I refused to give Vince my
[19] Q: (By Mr. Krasik) Sir, I'm marking as	[19] 20 bucks.
[20] Whistler Exhibit 6 a toy set, the packaging of which	[20] Q: Or JAKKS Pacific as the case may be?
[21] was produced to us in discovery as a black and white	[21] A: Or whatever.
[22] copy, but we're looking at the actual toys here in	[22] Q: I think your counsel represented that they
the deposition, which are going to be held by	purchased the product and that the receipt is on the
[24] Plaintiff's counsel.	[24] box and if, just for the record, you can read where
Would you take a moment to look at those.	[25] it was purchased, please?
Page	52 Page
[1] A: Okay.	[1] A: Wal-Mart.
[2] Q: And for the record, can you describe the	[2] Q: Yes, and where? What city? State?
pi reference to "Living Legend" that you see on that	[3] A: Let's see, Wal-Mart, manager Charles
[4] product, sir?	[4] Singleton; Douglasville, Georgia.
[5] A: Describe? You mean say what the	[5] Q: Thank you. Sir, other than his appearance
[6] advertising is here?	is at the Royal Rumble, which we discussed earlier, and
71 Q: Sure.	17] the broadcast of WW programming, do you have any
[8] A: It says "I'm a Living Legend."	[8] knowledge of any other ways that Mr. McMahon
(B) Q: And that's next to a picture?	p participated and caused the infringement, alleged
[10] A: It's right on the abdominal muscles of	[10] infringement of your "Living Legend" mark?
[11] Chris Irvine.	[17] MR. BRODHEAD: And objection to the
[12] Q: Perfect.And sir, looking at I believe	[12] extent that it calls for a legal
[13] the upper left corner — I'm sorry, upper right	[13] conclusion, but you can answer that.
[14] corner of the product, is it fair to say that's a	[14] THE WITNESS: Well, yeah, outside of the
ns product made by a company called JAKKS Pacific?	[15] Royal Rumble and Mr. McMahon's Smack Down
[16] A: I'm not an expert on products, but it says	[16] declaration, I haven't heard him use "the
[17] JAKKS Pacific, Inc. in the corner.	[17] Living Legend" other, you know, than that.
[18] Q: And do you have any knowledge, sir, of	[18] MR. KRASIK: That's the end of the
[19] JAKKS Pacific's relationship to World Wrestling	[19] deposition for today. Mr. Whistler, thank
20) Entertainment?	[20] you for your time.
Pit A: I have no knowledge of that.	And we recome our rights obviously

A: I don't know.

[21]

[22]

A: I have no knowledge of that.

[23] Pacific is a separate corporation?

Q: You have no knowledge, sir, whether JAKKS

Q: Or whether World Wrestling Entertainment

And we reserve our rights, obviously,

[22] for a deposition on the merits —

MR. BRODHEAD: Absolutely.

MR. KRASIK: -- once this issue is

[25] resolved.

[21]

AND DECORAGE OF A	Page 55		INDEX TO EVANDATIONS	Page 56
MR. BRODHEAD: Thanks.		[1]	INDEX TO EXAMINATIONS	
[2] MR. KRASIK: Off the record.		[2]	Examination Page	
(Deposition concluded at 1:27 p.m.)		[3]	Examination Page	
[4] (Pursuant to Rule 30(e) of the		[4] [5]	Examination by Mr. Krasik 3	
[5] Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and/or		(6)	Examination by W. Wasik	
[6] O.C.G.A. 9-11-30(e), the deponent and/or a		[7]		
77 party having requested the right to review		[B]	INDEX TO EXHIBITS	
[8] the deposition, making corrections and/or		[6]		
[9] changes and signing, for that purpose the			Whistler	
[10] errata pages have been annexed hereto.)			Exhibit Description Page	
[11]		[11]		
[12]			1 First Interrogatories on Personal	
[13]		[12]	Jurisdiction Issue Submitted by	
[14]			Detendants Vince McMahon and Chris	P
[15]		[13]	Irvine 12	
[16]		[14]	2 Plaintiff's Response to First	
[17]			Interrogatories on Personal Jurisdiction	
[18]		[15]	Issue Submitted by Defendants Vince	
			McMahori and Chris Irvine 12	
[19]		[16]	0.0 (1) 0 (0.1)	
[20]	· ·		3 Cover of the Royal Rumble videotape 29	
[21]		[77]	4 Cover and page 10 from the July 2002	
[22]	!	[18]	World Wrestling Magazine 42	
[23]		[19]	5 Cover page and pages 50 through 53	
[24]		i i al	of Inside Wrestling Magazine 43	
[25]		[20]	or mode viresting magazine 40	
		(==)	6 JAKKS Pacific Toy set, the packaging	
		[21]	which is a black and white copy 51	
		[22]	.,	
	'	j '	(Original Exhibits 1 through 6 have been	
		[23]	attached to the original transcript.)	
		[24]		
		[25]		

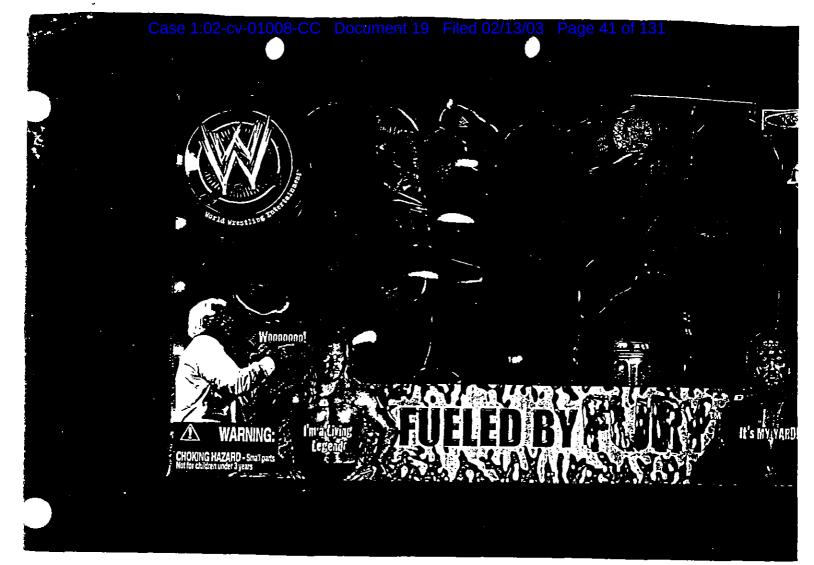
Page 57 [1] CERTIFICATE [2] [3] [4] STATE OF GEORGIA: [5] COUNTY OF FULTON: I hereby certify that the foregoing [8] transcript was taken down, as stated in 191 the caption, and the questions and answers no thereto were reduced to typewriting under [11] my direction; that the foregoing pages 1 [12] through 55 represent a true, complete, and [13] correct transcript of the evidence given [14] upon said hearing, and I further certify [15] that I am not of kin or counsel to the [16] parties in the case; am not in the regular in employ of counsel for any of said parties; [18] nor am I in anywise interested in the result [19] of said case. This, the 28th day of January, 2003. [20] [21] [22] COLLEEN B. SEIDL, CCR-B-1113 [23] My commission expires on the 191 disclosure: [24] 7th day of October, 2006. [25]

Page 58 COURT REPORTER DISCLOSURE [2] DEPOSITION OF. LARRY WHISTLER Pursuant to Article 8.B. of the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Court Reporting of the [4] Judicial Council of Georgia which states: "Each court reporter shall tender a disclosure form at the time [5] of the taking of the deposition stating the arrangements made for the reporting services of the [6] certified court reporter, by the certified court reporter, the court reporter's employer, or the [7] referral source for the deposition, with any party to the Migation, counsel to the parties or other [8] entity. Such form shall be attached to the deposition transcript," I make the following I am a Georgia Certified Court Reporter. I am [10] here as a representative of Brown Reporting, Inc. Brown Reporting was contacted by the offices of [11] Chorey, Taylor & Feil to provide court reporting services for the deposition. Brown Reporting will [12] not be taking this deposition under any contract that is prohibited by O.C.G.A. 15-14-37(a) and (b). Brown Reporting has no contract/agreement to provide reporting services with any party to the [14] case, any counsel in the case, or any reporter or reporting agency from whom a referral might have been [15] made to cover this deposition. Brown Reporting will charge its usual and customary rates to all parties [16] in the case, and a financial discount will not be given to any party to this litigation. [17] [18] /s/ Colleen B. Seidl, CCR-B-1113 1/27/03 [19] Signature of attorneys present: [20] /s/ [21] /s/ (22) /s/ [23] /s/ [24] Return this form after review and/or signatures to the court reporter for inclusion in the record, [25] Please use reverse side for additional signatures.

WORLD WRESTTING FEDERAT N, et al. DOCUMENT 1974 Fired 02/13/03 Page 39 of 131LARRY WHISTLER January 27, 2003

	·			Page 59					Page 61
[1]	DEP	OSITION OF	LARRY WHISTLER/CBS	ļ	[1]	: DFI	POSITION OF	LARRY WHISTLER/CBS	rage 6:
[2]	1 do here	by certify the	at I have read all			Page No.	Line No.	should read:	
	questions pr	ropounded to	me and all answers given		[3]		LINC 110.	Should read.	
[3]	by me on the	e 27th day o	f January, 2003, taken before	ļ			Lina Na	-badda a l	
	Colleen B. S	Seidl, and tha	at:			Page No.	Line No.	should read:	
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[6]	Pursuant to	o Rule 30(e)	ol the Federal Rules of		(8)	Page No.	Line No.	should read:	
	Civil Proced	ture and/or th	ne Official Code of Georgia		[9]				
[7]	Annotated 9)-11-30(e), b	oth of which read in part:		[10]	Page No.	Line No.	should read:	
	Any change	s in torm or	substance which you desire to		[[11]				
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 [15]	-				-		and subscribed		
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	-				140		July VI	, 20 .	
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(† 7) [18]	Page No.		-		[20]	Notary Pu			
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Lawyer's Notes



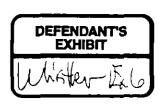






EXHIBIT / ATTACHMENT

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Page 1
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 2
              IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
              FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
                        ATLANTA DIVISION
 3
     LARRY WHISTLER a/k/a
     LARRY ZBYSZKO a/k/a
     THE LIVING LEGEND,
     an individual,
 6
                  Plaintiff,
                                           Civil Action
 7
                                           No. 1-02-CV-1008
          v.
 8
     WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION
     ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a
 9
     Connecticut Corporation,
10
     VINCE MCMAHON, an individual, )
     CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a CHRIS
     JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an
11
     individual,
12
                    Defendants.
13
                              Day, Berry & Howard, LLP
14
                              One Canterbury Green
                              Stamford, Connecticut 06901
15
                              January 29, 2003
16
                              3:30 p.m.
17
        DEPOSITION OF DEFENDANT, VINCE MCMAHON, pursuant
18
     to Agreement, taken at the above place, date and
19
     time, before Dawn Tedesco, a Registered Professional
20
     Reporter and Notary Public within and for the State
21
     of Connecticut.
22
23
                      SULLIVAN REPORTING
24
                      388 Tarrytown Road
                  White Plains, New York 10607
25
                         (914) 949-4545
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Page 2	J	Page 4
	١,	Proceedings
A P P E A R A N C E S	2	themselves.
	3	MR. BRODHEAD: This is Ben Brodhead
LAW OFFICES OF BENIC BRODHEAD		for the Plaintiff Larry Whistler.
Attorney for Plaintiff	ı	Along with me is Joel Myers for the
235 Peachtree Street		Plaintiff Larry Whistler.
Attaina, Georgia 20203	l	MR, KRASIK: Kurt Krasik of
		Kirkpatrick & Lockhart, counsel for World
	t .	Wrestling Entertainment, Inc., Vince McMahon
1827 Powers Ferry Road	· ·	and Chris Irvin
	1	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: And would the
		reporter please swear in the witness.
	13	VINCE MCMAHON, a Defendant herein, having been fir
	14	duly sworn by a Notary Public within and for the
Henry W. Oliver Building	15	State of Connecticut, was examined and testified as
	16	follows:
	17	EXAMINATION BY MR. BRODHEAD:
	18	MR. BRODHEAD: At the outset, can we
ALSO PRESENT	19	make the agreement that WWE references WWE
	20	and WWF just for convenience, or would you
	21	prefer a, those to be split up?
	22	MR, KRASIK: WWE is the current name
	23	of World Wrestling Federation Entertainment.
	24	Inc.
	25	MR. BRODHEAD: So it would be agreed
Proceedings	1	Page 5 Vince McMahon
- ·		that any reference to WWE includes the
		predecessor name?
		MR. KRASIK: That's correct.
	5	MR. BRODHEAD: This is the deposition
	6	of Vince McMahon taken pursuant to Federal
-	7	Rules of Civil Procedure as for purposes of
individual, Plaintiff versus World Wrestling	8	Cross-Examination and discovery, and all of
Federation Entertainment, Inc. a Connecticut	9	the purposes permissible under the Federal
Corporation, Vince McMahon, an individual,	10	Rules of Civil Procedure.
Chris Irvine a/k/a Chris Jericho, a/k/a	Н	The objections, with the exception of
Jericho, an individual, Defendants, in the	12	the form of the question and responsiveness
United States District Court for the Northern	13	of the answer, are reserved until the time of
•		use of the deposition.
		The deposition is by agreement of
•		counsel. And all formalities such as notice,
		time and place of taking and filing are
Howard, located at One Canterbury Green in	18	hereby waived provided that all those
Stamford, Connecticut. Present along with Mr. McMahon are the	19	stipulations are acceptable.
	20	MR. KRASIK: Agreed.
	21	O Would you please state your
stenographic reporter Dawn Tedesco, and	21	Q. Would you please state your name for
stenographic reporter Dawn Tedesco, and currently speaking, the videographer Michael	22	the record?
stenographic reporter Dawn Tedesco, and		
,	Page 3 Proceedings THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are now on the record beginning, approximately 3:29 p.m January 29th, 2003. This is the deposition of Vince McMahon in the matter of Larry Whistler a/k/a Larry Zbyszko a/k/a The Living Legend, an individual, Plaintiff versus World Wrestling Federation, Vince McMahon, an individual, Chris Irvine a/k/a Chris Jericho, a/k/a Jericho, an individual, Defendants, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia. Atlanta Division, civil action No. 1-02-CV-1008. The location at which this deposition is being taken is the offices of Day, Berry & The location at which this deposition is being taken is the offices of Day, Berry &	Attorney for Plaintiff 235 Peachtree Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303 MYERS & KAPLAN Intellectual Property Law, L. L. C Attorneys for Plaintiff 1827 Powers Ferry Road Building, 3, Suite 200 Atlanta, Georgia 30339 BY JOEL D MYERS, ESO KIRKPATRICK & LOCKHART, LLP Attorneys for Defendants Henry W Oliver Building 535 Smithfield Street Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222 BY CURTIS B KRASIK, ESQ A L S O P R E S E N T Michael Bennett, Videographer Page 3 Proceedings THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are now on the record beginning, approximately 3:29 p.m January 29th, 2003. This is the deposition of Vince McMahon in the matter of Larry Whistler a/k/a Larry Zbyszko a/k/a The Living Legend, an individual, Plaintiff versus World Wrestling Federation Entertainment, Inc. a Connecticut Corporation, Vince McMahon, an individual, Chris Irvine a/k/a Chris Jericho, a/k/a Jericho, an individual, Defendants, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta Division, civil action No. 1-02-CV-1008. The location at which this deposition is being taken is the offices of Day, Berry &

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Ì	Page 6		Page 8
١.	•	1	Vince McMahon
1 2	Vince McMahon A. Yes, I have.	2	MR. BRODHEAD: Okay. This is also
3	Q. How many times have you given a	3	about personal jurisdiction, personal
1	deposition?	4	address, obviously goes to personal
5	A. I don't recall exactly the number of	5	jurisdiction, that's why I'm asking for his
6	times.	6	personal address.
7	Q. Would you say it's more or less than	7	MR. KRASIK: If you would
8	10?	8	A. 1 live in Connecticut.
9	A. Yes, more.	9	MR. KRASIK: That's fine.
10	Q. More or less than 50?	10	A. I reside in Connecticut. My only
11	A. Probably less.	lii	permanent address is in Connecticut. How's that?
12	Q. So you're familiar with the process?	12	O. That's fine.
13	A. Yes.	13	MR. BRODHEAD: I think we're entitled
14	Q. And as I notice, you are using verbal	14	to the actual address. This is done pursuant
15	responses, and I would ask you to use verbal	15	to a confidentiality agreement. I have no
16	responses because although we are on video, an	16	interest in the address.
17	uh-huh or uh-uh, or shaking of the head may not be	17	MR. KRASIK: Mr. McMahon is a public
18	translated properly on paper; is that acceptable?	18	figure. I think he would prefer not to give
19	A. Yes, it is.	19	his personal information, such as his
20	Q. Will you also agree with me that if	20	personal address. I can't see the relevance
21	one of my questions is not understood by you, you	21	of what his specific address is.
22	will tell me?	22	MR. BRODHEAD: Well, we could resolve
23	A. Yes.	23	this by
24	Q. Are you currently under the influence	24	A. I have no problem. 14 Hurlingham
25	of any drugs or alcohol?	25	Drive in Greenwich, Connecticut.
ł			
	Page 7		Page 9
I	Page 7 Vince McMahon	ı	Vince McMahon
1 2		2	Vince McMahon Q. Zip code?
1	Vince McMahon MR. KRASIK: Objection. A. No.	2	Vince McMahon Q. Zip code? A. I don't know the zip code.
2	Vince McMahon MR. KRASIK: Objection. A. No. Q. Is there anything that would prevent	2 3 4	Vince McMahon Q. Zip code? A. I don't know the zip code. Q. Okay. How long have you been at that
2 3 4 5	Vince McMahon MR. KRASIK: Objection. A. No. Q. Is there anything that would prevent you from truthfully and completely answering my	2 3 4 5	Vince McMahon Q. Zip code? A. I don't know the zip code. Q. Okay. How long have you been at that address?
2 3 4 5 6	Vince McMahon MR. KRASIK: Objection. A. No. Q. Is there anything that would prevent you from truthfully and completely answering my questions today?	2 3 4 5 6	Vince McMahon Q. Zip code? A. I don't know the zip code. Q. Okay. How long have you been at that address? A. About 15 years.
2 3 4 5 6 7	Vince McMahon MR. KRASIK: Objection. A. No. Q. Is there anything that would prevent you from truthfully and completely answering my questions today? A. Nothing.	2 3 4 5 6 7	Vince McMahon Q. Zip code? A. I don't know the zip code. Q. Okay. How long have you been at that address? A. About 15 years. Q. And if you would, I just want to make
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Vince McMahon MR. KRASIK: Objection. A. No. Q. Is there anything that would prevent you from truthfully and completely answering my questions today? A. Nothing. Q. Have you been known by any other names	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Vince McMahon Q. Zip code? A. I don't know the zip code. Q. Okay. How long have you been at that address? A. About 15 years. Q. And if you would, I just want to make sure it gets taken down on the record: State your
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Vince McMahon MR. KRASIK: Objection. A. No. Q. Is there anything that would prevent you from truthfully and completely answering my questions today? A. Nothing. Q. Have you been known by any other names other than Vince McMahon?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Vince McMahon Q. Zip code? A. I don't know the zip code. Q. Okay. How long have you been at that address? A. About 15 years. Q. And if you would, I just want to make sure it gets taken down on the record: State your work address.
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Ì	Page 10		Page 12
1	Vince McMahon		Vince McMahon
2	WWE refers to all former names?	2	Q. Do you own any businesses in the State
3	MR, KRASIK: Yes.	3	of Georgia?
4	THE WITNESS: Yes, we can.	4	A. No.
5	Q. Okay. And as Chairman of the Board,	5	Q. Do you own any part of any businesses
6	what do your duties entail?	6	in the State of Georgia?
7	A. Basically, overseeing all of the	7	A. No.
8	entire operations.	8	Q. Do you own any vehicles registered in
9	Q. Are you compensated for that job?	9	the State of Georgia?
10	A. Yes, I am.	10	A. No.
11	Q. You also perform as a wrestler for WWE	11	Q. Have you ever personally been in the
12	from time to time?	12	State of Georgia?
13	A. Yes. I do.	13	A. Yes.
14	Q. Do you receive compensation for your	14	Q. Have you ever entered into any
15	performance as a wrestler?	15 16	contracts in Georgia?
16 17	A. Separate than that from Chairman? Q. Yes, separate from being Chairman.	17	MR. KRASIK: Objection. I think it calls for a legal conclusion, but to the
18	Q. Yes, separate from being Chairman. A. I'm not exactly sure how that's set	'/	extent that you understand, you can answer
19	up. I think I do.	19	that.
20	Q. Do you know if there is a contract	20	A. I'm not certain. We bought Georgia
21	between you and WWE for your appearances as a	21	Championship Wrestling at one time years ago, but I
22	wrestler for WWE?	22	don't know if that was, if that was, if that fits
23	A. There could very well be. I'm not	23	your criteria or not.
24	certain.	24	Q. That would,
25	MR. BRODHEAD: Is that something that	25	Do you know of any other contracts
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	Page 1		Page 13
,	Page 11 Vince McMahon	1	Page 13 Vince McMahon
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١,	Vince McMahon	١,	Vince McMahon
2	contracts in Georgia. Mr. McMahon said he	2	sometimes television, sometimes house shows, but
3	may have signed the contract, but that's not	3	probably would hit Georgia or Atlanta at least once
4	necessarily true.	4	a year as a regular scheduled stop along our
5	MR BRODHEAD: Agreed.	5	television production path, in which, chances are, I
6	Q. Do you know of any contracts with	6	would be there for that.
7	exclusion of the reference to the one for Georgia	7	MR. KRASIK: To clarify, when you say
8	Championship Wrestling that you might have signed in	8	"trips," do you mean vacations?
رب	the State of Georgia?	9	MR. BRODHEAD: No, I mean any time you
10	A. No.	10	would have entered Georgia.
11	Q. When was the last time you were in	1	Q. And I think that was included in your
12	Georgia?	12	response; is that correct?
13	A. A couple of monthsago.	13	A. That's correct.
14	Q. What was the purpose of that visit?	14	Q. With the exception of work that you've
15	 A television taping. 	15	done in Georgia as a wrestler, or work that you've
16	Q. And what was the TV taping for?	16	done in association with WWE, have you done any
17	A. Either RAWor Smadt Down, Idon't	17	other work in the State of Georgia?
18	recall which.	18	A. No.
19	Q. And both RAW and SmackDownare	19	Q. Did you work in Georgia on January
20	broadcast shows of WWE?	20	20th of 2002, which was the date of the Royal
21	A. Yes.	21	Rumble?
22	Q. Were you appearing there as a wrestler	22	A. Yes.
23	two months ago?	2.3	Q. Did you work there as a wrestler?
24	A. I don't tlink so.	24	A. Yes, I did.
25	Q. Do you know how many times you've been	25	Q. And did you work there in your
1	Page 15		Page 17
1	_		Page 17 Vince McMahon
1 2	Vince McMahon	1 2	· ·
1 2 3	_	1 2 3	Vince McMahon
2	Vince McMahon to the State of Georgia?	ı	Vince McMahon capacity as Chairman of the Board of WWE, as well?
2 3	Vince McMahon to the State of Georgia? A. Since when?	3	Vince McMahon capacity as Chairman of the Board of WWE, as well? A. Of course
2 3 4	Vince McMahon to the State of Georgia? A. Since when? Q. Since ever.	3	Vince McMahon capacity as Chairman of the Board of WWE, as well? A. Of course Q. Were you compensated separately from
2 3 4 5	Vince McMahon to the State of Georgia? A. Since when? Q. Since ever. A. Since ever?	3 4 5 6 7	Vince McMahon capacity as Chairman of the Board of WWE, as well? A. Of course Q. Were you compensated separately from your salary as Chairman of the Board for your appearance as a wrestler on the Royal Rumble on January 20th, 2002?
2 3 4 5 6	Vince McMahon to the State of Georgia? A. Since when? Q. Since ever. A. Since ever? Q. I mean, has it been tens of times,	3 4 5 6 7 8	Vince McMahon capacity as Chairman of the Board of WWE, as well? A. Of course. Q. Were you compensated separately from your salary as Chairman of the Board for your appearance as a wrestler on the Royal Rumble on January 20th, 2002? A. I think you asked me that question
2 3 4 5 6 7	Vince McMahon to the State of Georgia? A. Since when? Q. Since ever. A. Since ever? Q. I mean, has it been tens of times, hundreds of time?	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Vince McMahon capacity as Chairman of the Board of WWE, as well? A. Of course. Q. Were you compensated separately from your salary as Chairman of the Board for your appearance as a wrestler on the Royal Rumble on January 20th, 2002? A. I think you asked me that question earlier, and I responded the same way I will respond
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	Vince McMahon to the State of Georgia? A. Since when? Q. Since ever. A. Since ever? Q. I mean, has it been tens of times, hundreds of time? A. No, tens. Q. So you would assume less than 100 times in your life? A. Oh, yes.	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	Vince McMahon capacity as Chairman of the Board of WWE, as well? A. Of course. Q. Were you compensated separately from your salary as Chairman of the Board for your appearance as a wrestler on the Royal Rumble on January 20th, 2002? A. I think you asked me that question earlier, and I responded the same way I will respond at this time: I'm not certain if there is a separate contract or not that separates my
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Vince McMahon to the State of Georgia? A. Since when? Q. Since ever. A. Since ever? Q. I mean, has it been tens of times, hundreds of time? A. No, tens. Q. So you would assume less than 100 times in your life?	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Vince McMahon capacity as Chairman of the Board of WWE, as well? A. Of course. Q. Were you compensated separately from your salary as Chairman of the Board for your appearance as a wrestler on the Royal Rumble on January 20th, 2002? A. I think you asked me that question earlier, and I responded the same way I will respond at this time: I'm not certain if there is a separate contract or not that separates my personality pay you call it wrestler pay with
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Vince McMahon to the State of Georgia? A. Since when? Q. Since ever. A. Since ever? Q. I mean, has it been tens of times, hundreds of time? A. No, tens. Q. So you would assume less than 100 times in your life? A. Oh, yes. Q. Less than 50 times in your life? A. Yes.	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Vince McMahon capacity as Chairman of the Board of WWE, as well? A. Of course. Q. Were you compensated separately from your salary as Chairman of the Board for your appearance as a wrestler on the Royal Rumble on January 20th, 2002? A. I think you asked me that question earlier, and I responded the same way I will respond at this time: I'm not certain if there is a separate contract or not that separates my personality pay you call it wrestler pay with that of my function as Chairman of the Board. So
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Vince McMahon to the State of Georgia? A. Since when? Q. Since ever. A. Since ever? Q. I mean, has it been tens of times, hundreds of time? A. No, tens. Q. So you would assume less than 100 times in your life? A. Oh, yes. Q. Less than 50 times in your life? A. Yes. Q. Less than 20 times?	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Vince McMahon capacity as Chairman of the Board of WWE, as well? A. Of course. Q. Were you compensated separately from your salary as Chairman of the Board for your appearance as a wrestler on the Royal Rumble on January 20th, 2002? A. I think you asked me that question earlier, and I responded the same way I will respond at this time: I'm not certain if there is a separate contract or not that separates my personality pay you call it wrestler pay with that of my function as Chairman of the Board. So I'm not certain of that same answer to the same
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	Vince McMahon to the State of Georgia? A. Since when? Q. Since ever. A. Since ever? Q. I mean, has it been tens of times, hundreds of time? A. No, tens. Q. So you would assume less than 100 times in your life? A. Oh, yes. Q. Less than 50 times in your life? A. Yes. Q. Less than 20 times? A. Probably, somewhere in that	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Vince McMahon capacity as Chairman of the Board of WWE, as well? A. Of course. Q. Were you compensated separately from your salary as Chairman of the Board for your appearance as a wrestler on the Royal Rumble on January 20th, 2002? A. I think you asked me that question earlier, and I responded the same way I will respond at this time: I'm not certain if there is a separate contract or not that separates my personality pay you call it wrestler pay with that of my function as Chairman of the Board. So I'm not certain of that same answer to the same question.
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Page 18 Page 20 Vince McMahon Vince McMahon pages. need to expand the question, as well. 3 Okay. Α. So when you do appear - tell me all (Witness complies.) 4 the capacities that you might appear -- well, I 5 Q. Do you recognize that as the, as a 5 guess I'll just leave it at that. Tell me all the copy of the cover of the Royal Rumble video? capacities you may appear, by that I mean, we 6 A. No, I wouldn't recognize that. I've described Chairman of the Board of WWE, as a seen this before, but I don't know if it's the cover wrestler and as a TV personality. Are there any 8 9 other capacities? of the Royal Rumble video or not. 10 In what contest have you seen that 10 A. Let me clarify those for you because 11 before? you're mixing it up. 11 12 This was our Pay-Per-View poster. As the Chairman of the Board, that has Α. 12 nothing to do with anything that's my television which can be used for multiple things. And if you 13 personality. I have a character known as tell me this poster was used for the cover of our 14 15 video. I'll accept that. Mr. McMahon on television, who is, in fact, the 15 16 Q. Okay. If you look at the second page, owner, although it's a public company, and I don't please. About in the middle it says "Street fight, 17 own -- it's a public company, but nonetheless, my character is the portrayal of one who is a very no DQ, no count out." And it has "Vince McMahon TM 18 19 versus Rick Flair TM." Do you see that portion? 19 dogmatic, egotistical owner who throws his weight A. Yes, I do. 20 20 around quite a bit. Sometimes that personality role 21 sometimes will lead to a match. Q. Do you know what the "TM" stands for 21 22 MR. KRASIK: I object to the form of 22 next to your name? 23 A. It seems to be next to everyone's 23 that last question. 24 name, doesn't it? Q. Is it correct that you have, in fact, 24 Q. Yes. 25 25 trademarked the name Vince McMahon? Page 19 Page 21 Vince McMahon Vince McMahon 2 2 I guess trademark, but --MR, KRASIK: Objection. Who are you 3 speaking of. Vince, personally, or the 3 Are you familiar with what a trademark Q. is? company? 4 5 MR. BRODHEAD: Well, actually, I'll 5 Yes, I am. Α. 6 speak of Vince, personally, Have you ever been involved in 6 Q. 7 Q. Have you personally trademarked your securing trademarks for any names? MR. KRASIK: By "you," who are you 8 name Vince McMahon? 8 9 9 referring to? I don't know. 10 Q. Has the company WWE trademarked your 10 MR. BRODHEAD: Well, I'm actually

н name? 11 referring to him, personally. 12 Me, personally? 12 Α. I don't know. Α. 13 Yes. And actually, by that I mean Q. Have I ever trademarked some name 14 trademarked the name Vince McMahon, which I assume 14 is the same answer; that you don't know? personally? No. The answer is no. 16 A. I don't know. 16 Q. Have you ever as the Chairman or as an 17 MR. BRODHEAD: If you could mark this 17 employee of WWE made efforts to have a name as McMahon I. trademarked? 18 18 (McMahon Exhibit 1, copy of cover of 19 A. I'm sure we have. 20 the Royal Rumble video, was marked for 20 Q. Okay. And I think I need to restate 21 identification as of this date.) 21 that question. 22 Your response was "I'm sure we have." MR. BRODHEAD: Let the record reflect 22 23 I'm showing the deponent what's been marked 23 My question actually to you was: In as McMahon I. your capacity, have you in your capacity as Would you take a look at that, both Chairman, or any other employee of WWE, ever

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Page 22 Page 24 Vince McMahon Vince McMahon name is trademarked or not. I can't remember. It's 2 assisted in obtaining trademarks? A. I'm not an attorney, much less a not anything that I would under normal circumstances trademark one, so I wouldn't be doing that in any 4 5 capacity. That's not my job. 5 Okay. Are you familiar with an 6 individual named Chris Irvine? 6 But in terms of protecting our 7 intellectual properties. I would expect those that Α. Yes. are charged with, with protecting WWE intellectual 8 How do you know him? 8 Q. Α. He's one of the WWE Superstars. Not 9 properties would do their jobs. 10 known by that name. Q. Who makes the decision regarding what 10 names will be trademarked and which names will not 11 Q. And what is a WWE Superstar? 12 be trademarked? It's an individual who has achieved a certain level of stardom as a performer under our 13 13 A. I guess that would be a legal, a legal [4 umbrella. 14 discussion. 15 Q. Have you in your capacity as an 15 Q. Under what name has Mr. Chris Irvine employee of WWE ever suggested that a particular achieved that level of stardom? 16 17 Α. As Chris Jericho. 17 name be trademarked? 18 18 Again, if we put someone on our air, O. How long have you known Mr. Irvine? 19 Time flies, I don't know, six years, 19 and they have a name, then hopefully, we will be A. protected in whatever way we should be protected. 20 you know, something like that. 20 I'm not an attorney. It's just a normal course of 21 Is Mr. Irvine an employee of WWE? 21 O. 22 doing business. Someone comes on our air. Α. He's an independent contractor, I 22 23 helieve. 23 naturally, you want to protect your intellectual property in whatever way you can, or sometimes you 24 Do you know if he would have signed 25 cannot do. We do the best we can. the independent contractor agreement with Page 23 Page 25 Vince McMahon Vince McMahon Mr. Irvine? 2 Q. I apologize for asking this again, but 3 A. If I would have? I'm really looking for your conduct in this matter. 4 Yes, if you personally would have? Lunderstand that WWE would take O. 4 5 A. I don't recall. 5 efforts to protect its trademarkand protect its Jim Ross is in charge of talent intellectual property. 6 7 7 relations. It could very well have been Jim Ross My question was with regard to your conductas a representative or employee of WWE, have 8 8 who signed it. 9 MR. BRODHEAD: I would also like a you ever directed that a particular namebe sent 10 copy of that independent contractor 10 through the process to become trademarked? 11 agreement, if that is acceptable, 11 A. In generalties, as a part of the 12 MR. KRASIK: We'll take that under creative process, we come up with a number of names. 13 advisement. not just about individuals. For instance, Royal 13 Rumble. That's a name of a Pay-Per-View. And 14 (Production request for copy of 14 hence, the name of a video that follows the 15 independent contractor agreement indexed.) 15 16 Q. Have you ever signed an independent 16 Pay-Per-View, etcetera. 17 So when I come up with, or whomever 17 contractor agreement with a, with any individual who was a wrestler for WWE? 18 comes upwith a name, it would go through a normal 18 19 MR, KRASIK: Object. I'm not sure 19 process. Chances are, I would not specifically say 20 what that has to do with jurisdiction, what 20 to our rademark guys, 'Hey, gotrademark this." it really has to do with this case, but if 21 21 Because once we come up with it, and once we start 22 vou can answer. 22 to use t, the normal process is that the legal A. If I ever signed a contract with one 23 folks dotheir jobs. 23 of our performers? 24 Whether or not I personally have said 24 An independent contractor contract 25 something about go, makesure this one particular 25

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Page 26 Vince McMahon with one of your performers, yes. 2 I believe all of our contracts are 3 4 with independent contractors. And I could very well 5 have signed a number of them, especially in the earlier days. I don't make a habit of signing them 6 these days, but I could very well have. 7 Q. Do you know if Chris Irvine performed 9 in Atlanta at the Royal Rumble on January 20th of 10 11 Let me just look here. I think he 12 did, ves MR, KRASIK: This isn't a memory est. 13 14 right? 15 MR. BRODHEAD: It is not a memory 16 17 Yes. A. Was there a point in time when Chris 18 Irvine's character became the champion of the WWE? 19 20 Do you know what event that was at? 21 Q. 22 It was not this event, I don't A. 23 believe. Do you know what event it was? 24 25 I'm sorry, I can't remember.

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Vince McMahon

- there was no reason for us -- although we reserved the right, there was no reason for us to change the name when he came here.
- Q. Is there an approval process that an individual has to go through before a specific character name is used?
 - An approval process? Α.
 - Does WWE approve character names? Q.
- Yes, there's a whole legal process which you go through before names are approved.
- What's the legal process that is gone through before names are approved?
- There is a search, for instance, going 14 back to whether it's an individual name or the name 15 of a Pay-Per-View like Royal Rumble. Our legal 17 people will do a search and tell us whether or not, in their legal opinion, it will "clear" legally, and if it does or whatever encumbrances there may be, 20 and what areas there may be problems, or it's totally clear, go about and register it. That's the 21 22 preliminary.
- 23 And then you go for some sort of 24 formal thing, and you may or may not run into more problems there.

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Vince McMahon

- Okav. Do you know what character Chris Irvine used when he wrestled on January 20th, 2002 in Atlanta?
 - A. What character he used? MR. KRASIK: Objection.
 - Q. I'm sorry, what character name?
- Α. Chris Jericho.

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- 9 And character name, is that a proper 10 term within the industry, if I say "character name"?
 - Yes, sure.
- 12 Q. Would you tell us what a character 13 name is?
- 14 The character name is the name of the 15 television personality, and not necessarily the name of the actual human being playing the part of that 16 17 personality. In this case, Chris Jericho is the 18 personality. Chris Irvine is the human being who 19 plays that part. 20 Q. What's the purpose of using a
- 21 character name?
- Stage names, sometimes -- this name 22 actually came to us. It was not anything that we 23
- had invented, because Jericho was working at WCW as Chris Jericho. He was known as Chris Jericho. So

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Vince McMahon

2 Q. Does the WWE enter into an agreement, or is there any document that authorizes an individual to use a particular character name? 5

MR. KRASIK: Objection to form. Do

you understand the question?

- Sometimes our contracts are signed. A. obviously by the human being that is playing the part, but sometimes the part changes. We have performers be four or five different personalities 10 11 with four or five different names going forward. 12 And each time that occurs, it's legal's 13 responsibility to make sure that, that that is okay 14 legally. And secondly, that proper releases are
- 16 O. Do you have personally any input on 17 how your talent, or what character name your talent 18 might use?
 - A. Sometimes I do. yes.

done with the talent.

- 20 Q. What's the extent of your input? 1 mean, what's the most extent you've had, the most 21 22 input you've had? 23
 - A. The most input I've had?
 - Well, such as, an example would be coming up with a name, name and then telling an

Page 30 Page 32 Vince McMahon Vince McMahon 2 Do you know when Mr. Irvine first used 2 individual that that would be the name that he'll 3 3 the phrase Living Legend to refer to himself? nse. 4 MR. KRASIK: Objection. A. Oh, it was for a brief period of time 5 We always work with our talent to make 5 a couple of years ago. Q. Did Mr. Irvine have to go through an sure they're comfortable with whatever names we come 6 approval process to use the term Living Legend in up. And conversely, when the talent comes up with 7 the name, we have to be comfortable with that, as 8 reference to himself? 8 o MR. KRASIK: Objection to form. 9 well corporately and it's a joint effort. It's not. okay, you're playing this part. Here's your name 10 No. Best I recall. Chris used that 10 one night describing himself as a Living Legend, and go get dressed and don't even say hello. We 1] 11 encourage interaction with our talents to make sure describing his character as a Living Legend. I 12 12 they're comfortable with everything we give them. didn't think it was terribly creative because it had 13 13 14 I guess maybe the most emphatic 14 been used before. But he liked it, stuck with it 15 character perhaps that would fit where you're trying 15 for a while; although that wasn't the only one he used. 16 to go would be The Undertaker played by Mark 16 Callaway. 17 He uses a lot of terms to describe 17 himself all of which relate to Chris Jericho as 18 The Undertaker was a concept that 18 originated from the office, and the name, as well, larger than life. And there has been two or three 19 and then presented to Mark Callavay who liked it. 20 others, as well. 20 And he is now known as The Undertaker. 21 Q. Did you ever authorize Mr. Irvine's 21 22 22 Other times we've come up with names use of the phrase Living Legend in reference to that did not suit characters, such as Stone Cold 23 23 24 Steve Austin. 24 MR. KRASIK: Objection to form. Do 25 When Steve Williams -- his real you understand what he means by "authorize"? 25 Page 31 Page 33 Vince McMahon Vince McMahon 1 name -- came here, he was The Ringmaster. And that 2 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do. 2 3 was the name given to Steve Williams to use. And he 3 A. And I think that in terms of -- first did for a while. And he just came to me one day and 4 of all, it was not my idea for him to use Living 5 said "I'm not The Ringmaster. I can't get into Legend, because that was something that my dad in promoting Bruno Sammartino asked Bruno to start 6 that. And I'm really Stone Cold." 6 7 I said "You're who?" using. We started calling Bruno The Living Legend. 7 He said "I'm Stone Cold." 8 Subsequent to that, we did what's 8 9 known as a program, which was a series of matches o So he came up with Stone Cold Steve 10 with Larry Zbyszko who allegedly was from Pittsburgh 10 Austin. And we cleared and everything was successful. He and we together made that a very 11 and allegedly trained by Bruno, and it was a H 12 pupil/student battle-type thing. 12 successful name and identity. 13 So then Larry started using Living 13 Q. Have you personally ever instructed a 14 Legend; of course at my dad's behest, as well. 14 wrestler that be could not use a particular name or 15 So that's why I wasn't terribly 15 phrase in reference to himself? enamored with Living Legend. But at the same time. 16 Α. I may have 16 17 had I said "Chris Jericho, don't use" -- or Chris 17 Do you know if Mr. Irvine ever used 18 the phrase "Living Legend" in reference to himself? 18 Irvine -- "don't use Living Legend," he wouldn't 19 19 Yes. 20 20 Q. And he did? So whether that's tacit approval or whatever it might be. You might say it is, because 21 A. Yes. 21 22 How many times do you know of that 22 I do have the ability to say "Don't use that." Mr. Irvine has used the phrase Living Legend to 23 23 And again, we try to give our talent some leeway as to how to describe themselves and so refer to himsel? 24 24

forth. And my only objection to it was one of it

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A. I don't know.

Page 34 Page 36 Vince McMahon Vince McMahon everything, be everything, et cetera. So the idea had been done before. 2 3 of me looking at every single license and all that Q. Does WWE enter into licensing ز sort of stuff is sort of an absurd notion. 4 agreements with other companies? Q. Did WWE ever license the phrase Living 5 A. Other companies? Yes, we do. Legend in reference to Mr. Irvine? 6 And does WWE license character names MR. KRASIK: Objection. 7 and phrases used in reference to particular 7 8 wrestlers? 8 I don't believe so. 9 Yes, we do. There is a process by 9 MR. BRODHEAD: Could you just mark 10 which that goes forward with licensees. 10 this as McMahon 2, please. And are those license agreements in u (McMahon Exhibit 2, Xerox copy of 11 Q. writing? 12 packaging for action figure, was marked for 12 13 MR. KRASIK: Let me just object to 13 identification as of this date.) 14 your last question, and now you can ask your 14 Q. That is a, a copy, the best copy we 15 new question. I'm sorry, could you repeat 15 could get of a box that was for a particular action that? figure. And included in those action figures was a 16 16 17 The question is: Are those license 17 representation of Chris Jericho. Q. 18 agreements in writing? 18 Are you familiar with what that 19 A. Yes. 19 product might be, or does that allow you to 20 Do you ever personally sign those 20 recognize what the product would be? license agreements? 21 I've never seen this before. 21 MR. KRASIK: For the record, we aren't 22 A. I don't believe so, no. 22 23 Do you know who does? 23 looking at the product. We are looking at a 24 black and white Xerox copy of packaging 24 Probably Donna Goldsmith now. Prior 25 to Donna Goldsmith, I think it was Jim Bell. 25 without the product present. Page 35 Page 37 Vince McMahon ŧ Vince McMahon 2 Were the license agreements entered 2 It's been represented by counsel to 3 be, among other things, a doll of Chris 3 into since January 1 of 2001 have been signed by Jericho; however, that is not with us right 4 either Donna Gold (sic) or Jim Bell? 4 5 5 now. A What's the date? O. Are you familiar with any action 6 January 1 of 2001? 6 Q. 7 figures that were made of wrestlers? 7 I think it would be Donna. MR. KRASIK: Objection to form. 8 MR. KRASIK: It's Goldsmith. 8 9 MR. BRODHEAD: Goldsmith, I'm sorry. 9 Am I familiar with action figures? 10 THE WITNESS: Right. 10 Q. That were made of wrestlers, that were 11 Q. Do you personally approve the 11 WWE wrestlers? 12 That were? 12 licensing of character names and phrases used to Α. 13 Or that are. 13 describe particular wrestlers? Have any WWE wrestlers been, had 4 14 MR. KRASIK: Objection. 15 A. No. Again, there is a process here. 15 action figures produced of the character? Of course, yes. Once someone is known by a certain name, you would 16 16 Okay. Has Mr. Irvine's character, assume then that that's the name that's going to be 17 17 Chris Jericho, ever been produced as an action licensed. 18 18 19 figure, to your knowledge? 19 O. In your capacity as Chairman, Yes. 20 obviously, you would have the ability to veto the 20 A. use of any name in a license; is that correct? 21 Has that action figure ever been 21 MR. KRASIK: Objection to form. described on the packaging, as far as you know of, 22 22 A. That's technically correct. However, as a Living Legend? 23 23 24 there is a certain amount of business that goes on A. On - if I assume correctly, that this 24 at World Wrestling Entertainment, and I can't see 25 is a copy of a package, which we don't have before

	Page 38		Page 40
١.	Vince McMahon	ı	Vince McMahon
2	us, someone whether I was our company or the	2	A. No. not to my knowledge.
3	licensee who manufactures and distributes, in this	3	MR. KRASIK: You're right, it was
4	case it would be lakks. Jakks has our Icense for	4	asked before, so I object.
5	articulated action figures.	5	MR. BRODHEAD: I'm just trying to move
6	As I'm reading this, I'm seeing that	6	on.
7	Rick Flair, that there is a word "Woooooo!" next to	7	Q. Did the licensing agreements entered
8	Rick Flair. And then ontop of Chris Jericho, a	8	into by WWE contain geographic restrictions? By
9	shot of Chris Jericho, there is a quote: "I am a	9	that I mean, would there be a license agreement that
10	Living Legend." So I'm reading what I'm seeing here	10	said perhaps Jakks could sell articulated action
11	for the first time. Whether or not this is approved	11	figures west of the Mississippi, and somebody else
12	by my company ornot, I don't know.	12	could sell them east of the Mississippi, or produce
13	Q. Who would be in charge of the	13	them east of the Mississippi? Is there a geographic
14	approval – let me backup.	14	location restriction, as far as you're aware?
15	Would the use of the term, or the	15	A. I'm not certain about international.
16	phrase 'I am a Living Legend" have to be approved by	16	There may be some geographic restrictions on
17	the WWE?	17	international. This is a global brand. And under
18	A. By contract, yes. So would	18	normal circumstances, there may be some. But from a
19	"Wooooom," so would "Fieled by Fury," whateveris	19	United States standpoint, I would doubt it very
20	here in writing.	20	seriously.
21	There are approval processes that we	21	Q. Do you have any ownership in Jakks
22	ask for in our Icensee program that hopefully are	22	Pacific, personally?
23	carried out.	23	A. No.
24	Q. Would you have personally signed any	24	Q. Does WWE have any ownership in Jakks
25	of those licensing agreements? I think we might	25	Pacific?
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	Page 39		Page 41
ı	Page 39 Vince McMahon	ı	Page 41 Vince McMahon
1 2	Vince McMahon	1 2	•
l .	Vince McMahon have just covered that. That would have been Donna		Vince McMahon
2	Vince McMahon	2	Vince McMahon A. I don't believe so. They gave us some
2 3	Vince McMahon have just covered that. That would have been Donna Goldsmith that would have signed those licensing	2	Vince McMahon A. I don't believe so. They gave assome warrants at one time. I think its called, but we
2 3 4	Vince McMahon have just covered that. That would have been Donna Goldsmith that would have signed those licensing agreements?	2 3 4	Vince McMahon A. I don't believe so. They gave assome warrants at one time. I think its called, but we cashed them in.
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2 3 4 5 6	Vince McMahon have just covered that. That would have been Donna Goldsmith that would have signed those licensing agreements? A. Right. Although I may have signed one years ago or something. I don't know. Q. But since January of 2001? A. I don't think I signed them. I sign a	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Vince McMahon A. I don't believe so. They gave assome warrants at one time. I think its called, but we cashed them in. Q. Do you have any other control over Jakks Pacific? MR. KRASIK: Objection to form. What control has been established?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Vince McMahon have just covered that. That would have been Donna Goldsmith that would have signed those licensing agreements? A. Right, Although I may have signed one years ago or something. I don't know. Q. But since January of 2001? A. I don't think I signed them. I sign a lot of things that are just put in front of me, you	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Vince McMahon A. I don't believe so. They gave assome warrants at one time. I think its called, but we cashed them in. Q. Do you have any other control over Jakks Pacific? MR. KRASIK: Objection to form. What control has been established? Q. Do you have any other way of
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Page 42 Vince McMahon 2 Q. Actually, could you have prevented it? 3 Could you have said "Let's not enter into an agreement," and kept the WWE from entering into an agreement with Jakks? MR, KRASIK: That's a hypothetical 6 question. I object on that basis. 8 A. I don't understand that, at all. 9 Did you have authority to prevent an 10 agreement? A. To prevent? 11 Q. To prevent agreements? 12 We don't try to prevent agreements. 13 We try to make agreements. We're not attorneys. 14 That's what attorneys do. We try to make things 15 16 happen. 17 I don't understand the phraseology, at 18 all. I don't try to prevent things. I try to make 19 things happen. 20 Would we try to enter into an 21 agreement with a bona fide licensee? Yes, we would have. Did we enter into one with Jakks? Yes, we

Page 44 Vince McMahon organization. 3 And my understanding of your authority within the organization is if you want an agreement to occur, you have the authority to make it occur. If there is an agreement that's being negotiated that you don't want to occur, you have the authority to stop it from occurring. That's my understanding: is that correct? 10 A. The correct answer is: As the П Chairman, I let everyone do their jobs. So whoever is in charge of our licensing program, if they bring 12 what I consider and presented as a bona fide 14 contract with someone, then I'm going to accept 15 their recommendation that this is the thing to do, that this is the generally accepted rule, et cetera. 16 17 And I'm going to accept their position, generally speaking, and support them and enter into an 19 agreement. If someone came to me and said -- who 20 was in charge of our license department -- "Don't 21 enter into an agreement," I would have accepted

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that, as well,

agreement -

Vince McMahon

That I felt? A.

If WWE, through other employees, was working on an agreement with Jakks, and if you didn't like that agreement with Jakks, could you have vetoed the agreement?

MR. KRASIK: Same objection.

I wouldn't be vetoing an agreement There wouldn't be an agreement.

did. With our own free volition our own free will?

Q. It does, but it's not necessarily what

Vince McMahon

Yes, we will. Does it help you?

I was asking.

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Q. So you would be able to prevent an agreement from forming?

MR. KRASIK: Objection to form.

I would assume that whoever would be running our licensing program, as long as they were doing it on a bona fide basis, and not in cahoots with Jakks, or any other licensee or something like that, then my job is to agree to things, not to disagree to something before it happens. So we would agree to enter into that.

So if the implication is we could have disagreed, obviously, that's your answer.

And I'm not trying to - I apologize if my question is not artful. I apologize if my question is inartful. It's not meant to address anything other than your authority within the

Yes. You make the decisions. Again I'm going to get back, whoever is in charge of the licensing program at the time. I allow people to do their jobs. If they are going to 7 present an agreement and say "This is a good 8 agreement, and this is what we should do as a 9 company." I'm going to say "fine." If they bring me an agreement or a proposal and say "We should not 10 П do this one," then I'm going to say "fine." That's

Q. If someone came to you with an

Page 45

24 agreement that you did not feel was a bona fide

Q. Do you have final approval of licensing agreements?

their jobs. That's what they do.

15 A. I don't think I've ever looked at a licensing agreement in my life. I'm not I'm not an attorney. I'm a Chairman of the Board. I want 17 18 people to do their jobs. 19

MR. KRASIK: Are we going to move on from this line?

MR. BRODHEAD: Yes

22 Q. Do you know whether -- well, we're 23 about to move on I think we're two questions away 24 from moving on. 25

Do you know whether or not the

Page 48 Page 46 Vince McMahon Vince McMahon agreement with Jakks Pacific allowed Jakks Pacific story line 2 2 3 3 to distribute products within Georgia? But again, it takes two to tango. If 4 4 A. I would assume it would. I can go in and cut to the chase and help you out Again, you seem to ask the same here, Living Legend is not a story line. Living 5 5 questions over. My response earlier was from the 6 Legend was a description of Chris Jericho, in my 6 view, in his own words who he thought he was as a 7 United States standpoint. I don't think there was 7 8 any restrictions geographically from the United character; one of the many that he used. Didn't States. There may be some on an international basis 9 enhance his character anymore than any others that 10 he used, and maybe less because it's been used 10 that I am unaware of. So Georgia is part of the u before. United States. 11 12 12 O. Is there a term, a term "story line" And it wasn't a story line, because 13 that's ever used in the wrestling industry or within 13 you make sure you can capitalize on it. Larry Zbyszko who is the complainant here, he would have 14 WWE? 14 15 to be under contract to us for that to have been a 15 A. Story line? Yes. 16 story line, notwithstanding Larry's attempts on many 16 О. What is a story line? 17 A story line in our business is no 17 occasions to want to be a part of our story line. different than a story line in a soap opera or 18 Larry attempted to call Jim Ross, who 18 19 drama. Same thing. Come up with a concept, 19 is in charge of talent relations, and gain involves characters. It could be a story line or 20 employment here in one form or another many, many 20 21 times, but it didn't happen. So that wasn't a story subject matter about anything in life, pregnancy, jealousy, inheritance, all sorts of things, you name 22 line, because a story line is something when you 23 it. And we've probably done it at one time or 23 have wrestler A and wrestler B, or personality A and personality B under contract, and so you can bring 24 another. 74 25 Q. What's the purpose of having a story them together in some sort of culmination as a story Page 47 Page 49 Vince McMahon 1 Vince McMahon line for the wrestling entertainment industry? 2 line 2 A. To generate interest. And you want to 3 Living Legend was not a story line, 3 4 make sure your story line is one that obviously 4 unless Bruno Sammarting was going to come out of 5 involves a lot of people or as many people as 5 retirement, and I wouldn't think that would be too possible so that you can capitalize on it, either in 6 likely. 6 7 7 a match or some sort of other culmination. Q. The story lines are used to keep viewers watching future events, as well; is that 8 Do you have input regarding the story 8 Q. Q correct? Q lines used by WWE? 10 10 MR. KRASIK: Objection to form. A. Yes, I do. A. Story lines are, again, they are there 11 11 Q. How long does a story line usually 12 to create interest in the product. 12 last? Q. And it's to keep a continuing interest It really depends. Some of them fall 13 13 flat on their face first time you try it and others 14 in the product; is that correct? 14 15 A. We have new story lines all the time. 15 continue. And the product has continued for many years, and 16 What would be - I guess the range Q. will many years after I'm gone. 17 17 would be from a one episode to how long? 18 Q. The WWE has events that take place all 18 A couple of years. 19 over the U.S.; is that correct? 19 So the story lines would be used to attract viewers; is that correct? 20 A. That's correct. 20 21 Yes, again, Mr. McMahon, Stone Cold 21 And the story lines can be continued from one event to the next event; is that correct? 22 type situation which lasted a long time, that's one 22 23 I think has lasted the longest so far and actually 23 A. They can. So the story line can be used and 24 can continue. It's the disgruntled employee and the 24 overbearing and overzealous boss. So that's the continued at several different events in several

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Vince McMahon

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different states; is that also correct? MR. KRASIK: Objection to form. Did

you understand the question?

THE WITNESS: No.

Well, a story line -- let me see if you can tell me what part you don't understand. I'll state the question again.

And I guess what I'm asking you is: Can a story line be used and continued during several different events that take place in several different states?

- A. Again, this is a global brand. Not 13 14 just can a story line be capitalized in one particular city, but it can be capitalized on in 1.5 16 other states and other countries.
- 17 Is the rise of one character to the level of champion of WWE a story line? 18
 - Not necessarily.
- 20 Is the rise of one character to the 21 level of champion of WWE a planned event?
- 22 Oh, sure.
- 23 When did the planning begin to elevate the character Chris Jericho to the level of WWE 24

25 champion?

Vince McMahon

decision? 2

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Yes. Α.

Were you personally involved in the decision to elevate Chris Jericho through the ranks, as well, as he became elevated on his way up to becoming champion?

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Page 53

MR. KRASIK: Objection, Do you understand? Can you answer that?

A. I try to be involved as much as I can with all talent in terms of their elevation.

It's a very vague question. A lot of these questions are very vague. I'm doing the best Lean

15 Q. Lunderstand. I don't mean to be vague. It's just this is an industry that I don't 17 have a whole lot of knowledge on. So if I ask you something that is not understood, like I mentioned in the beginning, please tell me and I will do my 20 best to correct it. It's not my goal to ask 21 anything that's a trick question or a vague question. It's just simply that I have to get to 22 23 the information so I can narrow it.

24 Am I correct that you said that you did have-- you do have input in the story lines?

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Vince McMahon

Sometime before he became champion.

- Q. Yes. Would that have been in 2001, or would that have been earlier than 2001?
- Well, you will have to tell me when he was champion. And then I could probably back up from there, when he first became champion.
- It was prior to the Royal Rumble. Probably would have been December of 2001.
- 10 A. This is a, an evolving soap opera. And you try to have all talent grow as much as 11 12 possible to achieve as large a stardom as possible 13 on all fronts.

14 But at the same time, a lot of 15 decisions, quite frankly, are made at the last minute, as well. Even the day before Chris Jericho 16 17 became champion, there was debate as to whether or 18 not he should be. That's how close that came.

19 But on one particular occasion, which 20 was a Pay-Per-View, there were two matches: Jericho 21 versus Rock and Jericho versus Stone Cold. And

2.2 Jericho "won" both of those matches, thus becoming 23

the first undisputed champion. But that wasn't a 24 decision that was made until the last minute.

Were you personally involved in that

Vince McMahon

Yes. I do.

Q. And you were aware that during Mr. Irvine's rise as the character Chris Jericho that he was using the phrase Living Legend in reference to himself?

MR. KRASIK: Objection. I think that misstates the record.

A. That was one of the phrases he was using. In no way, in my professional opinion, do I think that enhanced his image in any way. It was a trite expression that had been used and given by my dad to Bruno Sammartino, and given by my dad to Larry Zbyszko to create interest in the Zbyszko-Sammartino matchup, and in no way did it enhance Chris Jericho's image.

Q. Why was it used if it didn't enhance his image?

MR. KRASIK: Objection.

Again, we try to give our talent some degree of autonomy. Chris liked that in referring 21 22 to himself. I told him it had been done before by Bruno. And didn't think it really enhanced -- 1 didn't think it hurt him, but it didn't help. Larger than life is the one he's using now. And

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	Page S4		Page 56
١,	Vince McMahon	ı	Vince McMahon
2	he's used several others and they were deay.	2	is the same person as Larry Zbyszko?
3	But a lot of times a phrase like that	3	A. Yes.
4	doesn't necessarily enhance someone's character.	4	Q. How do you know of him?
5	You try to, you try to reach out to everything to	5	A. I worked with him for several years,
6	see what you can to do to enhance your character.	6	Q. When did you first meet him?
7	And in my personal opinion. I don't think that one	7	MR. KRASIK: Let me just interrupt for
8	necessarily helped him.	8	a second. I'm not sure what that has to do
9	And it was subsequently dropped.	9	with the jurisdictional issue.
	otherwise he would still be using it today. If it	10	MR. BRODHEAD: It's going to be one
10	was successful, we would definitely be using it	11	question.
11		12	MR. KRASIK: If it's one question.
12	today.	13	answer the question.
13	MR. KRASIK: We've been going for an	14 14	A. I would guess 30 years ago.
14	hour. Do you want to take a break?	15	Q. Are you familiar with where he
15	THE WITNESS: Just a little bit of	16	currently lives?
16	water, but let's keep going.	17	A. No.
17	Q. And as I recall previous testimony,	-	-
18	you did say that you claim a trademark in the name	81	Q. And I think you've clearly testified
19	Vince McMahon; is that correct?	19	that you were aware that Mr. Whistler used the
20	A. Boy, you say you don't do trick	20	phrase Living Legend in reference to himself in the
21	questions.	21	past?
22	MR. KRASIK: Objection.	22	MR. KRASIK: Objection to form.
23	A. Either that or you're dumb as a post.	23	A. When Bruno and Larry were working
24	and I don't think you're dumb.	24	under the banner of the old World Wrestling
25	You want to go back and have her	25	Federation with my dad, my dad came up with the name
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	Page 55		Page 57
		l	Page 57 Vince McMahon
l 1	Vince McMahon	l 2	Vince McMahon
2	Vince McMahon repeat my answer, or do you want me to tell you that	_	Vince McMahon Living Legend, gave it to Brunoto use in terms of
2	Vince McMahon repeat my answer, or do you want me to tell you that answer again?	2	Vince McMahon Living Legend, gave it to Brunoto use in terms of identifying himself as a marketing scheme. It
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2 3 4 5	Vince McMahon repeat my answer, or do you want me to tell you that answer again? Q. Why don't you tell me the answer again.	2 3 4	Vince McMahon Living Legend, gave it to Brunoto use in terms of identifying himself as a marketing scheme. It caught on big time.
2 3 4 5 6	Vince McMahon repeat my answer, or do you want me to tell you that answer again? Q. Why don't you tell me the answer again. A. I don't know.	2 3 4 5	Vince McMahon Living Legend, gave it to Brunoto use in terms of identifying himælf as a marketing scheme. It caught on big time. Subsequentto that as I stated before, then we had a pupil/student matchup-type
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Page 58 Page 60 Vince McMahon Vince McMahon the present? Q. With which companies -- I'm sorry, with which type of companies would WWE have entered MR. KRASIK: I think he just did. 3 MR. BRODHEAD: I think there were more into agreements to broadcast? And by that I mean, 4 5 individual companies than what he named. I'm assuming that it would be individual stations, networks and Pay-Per-View companies; and I'm 6 wondering if that's correct, and if there are any We're talking on aglobal basis? 7 8 Let's talk with the U.S. basis, sorry. 8 others? On a U.S. basis, that would be it, q MR. KRASIK. Object to the question. A. 10 what I just said 10 A. The only people relating to the broadcast industry. Why would we enter into paper П Q. From January 1 of 2001 until the 11 goods manufacturer for broadcast? I don't present, have WWE events been broadcast in Georgia? 12 12 13 understand the question. 13 A. By that you mean individud syndicaton, or do you mean the cablecast and 14 Q. I'm just making sure I hit the 14 15 broadcast elements, or all of the above? 15 categories. 16 O. All of the above. 16 Has WWE entered into agreements to 17 broadcast WWE events with individual TV stations? 17 A. I'm not certain about individual MR. KRASIK: Do you know what he means syndication, but part of the footprint of the 18 19 by "individual TV statements"? network would bea UPN affiliate somewhere in 20 A. I think you would be referring to 20 Georgia, I'm sure probably in Afanta. And I'm sure TNN is also carried with cable distributors in the 21 syndication. 21 22 Actually, I don't think you have a 22 State of Georgia as it is all over the country. 23 23 clue as to what you're referring to and you're Q. Do you know whether there are some WWE asking me to describe it for you. So I would 24 events that were broadcasted in some states, but not suggest, if you ask me the question: "Mr. McMahon, 25 in Georgia? Page 59 Page 61 Vince McMahon 1 Vince McMahon explain distribution to us and how you distribute A. Let's see. If I understand your the product and with whom," I would say, if that's question correctly. I think I said earlier that we 4 your question -would, in all likelihood, do one televised event per 5 Q. I'll ask that question. 5 year in the State of Georgia. And since we do a lot 6 Great, Then from a broadcast and more television than that, then the vast cablecast standpoint, we do business with cable preponderance of all of our television is done 8 companies, in this case, Viacom. And a part of outside of the State of Georgia. Does that help you 9 Viacom would be TNN, MTV. Another part of Viacom is with answering the question? broadcast, would be UPN, which is broadcast, network 10 I think so. broadcast. In addition to that, we also have a 11 11 Are there any states in which WWE --United States, states in which WWE does not 17 12 syndicated arm which we syndicate our own television broadcast television shows? 13 shows. That's done with individual stations as an 13 14 independent syndicator. We also have numerous 14 We haven't broadcasted from Alaska. I 15 don't think we've broadcast from Hawaii, either. 15 contracts with international distributors, including 16 cable broadcast and satellite distribution. 16 MR. KRASIK: Let me clarify something 17 17 for the record. I think Mr. McMahon is Q. Do you participate in the negotiation 18 of these broadcast agreements? 18 answering where taped television shows have 19 appeared as opposed --19 A. Some. 20 Q. Do you sign some of these broadcast 20 MR. BRODHEAD: Where they've aired. 21 agreements? 21 THE WITNESS: Where they've aired? 22 A. I don't believe so, no. 22 MR. BRODHEAD: Yes. 23 Q. Are you able to identify, as we sit 23 THE WITNESS: And your question again?

here today, the companies with which WWE had

broadcast agreements between January 1 of 2001 and

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Q. Are there any states where WWE events

or television programs have not been aired?

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	Page 62	Ì	Page 64
l ,	VinceMcMahon	1	Vince McMahon
2	A. No.	2	we would normally do to promote an upcoming even.
3	Q. Regarding syndicating shows, would	3	Q. Do these efforts to promote an
4	those agreements for the syndication be made with	4	upcomingevent include references to specific
5	individual stations?	5	wrestlers?
6	A. Yes.	6	A. It depends it can.
7	O. Would there have been individual	7	Q. Do you have any input regarding the
8	syndication agreements made with individual stations	8	promotion of WWE events?
9	within Georgia?	9	A. Therein dol approve specific spots
10	A. Possibly.or it could be apart of a	10	for specific locations? No.
111	chain.] []	Again, I, I can't be all things to all
12	At one time, you know, there wasn't a	12	people. I exped them to do their job. Whoeveris
13	lot of group ownership. The business has changed so	13	handling promotion should be handling it and
14	much. There is so much group ownership. You make a	14	handling it well
15		15	
	deal with a group and they may have a station in	1	Q. Do you know if Mr. Irvine's character
16	Georgia. But there's a possibility that there may	16	Chris Jericho was used to promote the WWE event
17	be one station in Georgia that's independent from a	17	Royal Rumble that took place on January 20th of
18	group, not likely.	18	2002?
19	Q. But that's not something that you	19	A. No, I don't.
20	would have specific knowledge of?	20	Q. Do you know if the phrase Living
21	A. No.	21	Legend was used in reference to Mr. Irvine's
22	Q. Does WWE have the ability to black out	22	character or anyone clse's character in order to
23	programing in one state? Let's say, for instance,	23	promotethe Royal Rumblethat occurred in Georgii on
2.4	if WWE wanted to show programing in all states of	24	January 20th of 2002?
25	the United States except for Georgia, would WWE have	25	A. I wouldn'tknow.
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 	Page 63	<u> </u> 	Page 65
1	Page 63 Vince McMahon	l	Vince McMahon
2	·	2	Vince McMahon MR. BRODHEAD: We're getting pretty
l	Vince McMahon		Vince McMahon MR. BRODHEAD: We're getting pretty close, if you want to take a few minute break
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2	Vince McMahon that ability? A. No. Q. Why not? A. Because if you're doing business with	2	Vince McMahon MR. BRODHEAD: We're getting pretty close, if you want to take a few minute break here. THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We'll go off the
2 3 4	Vince McMahon that ability? A. No. Q. Why not?	2 3 4 5 6	Vince McMahon MR. BRODHEAD: We're getting pretty close, if you want to take a few minute break here. THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We'll go off the record. The time is approximately 4:43 p.m.
2 3 4 5	Vince McMahon that ability? A. No. Q. Why not? A. Because if you're doing business with networks, you don't dictate to the network. They dictate to you, and they want to have as broad a	2 3 4 5 6 7	Vince McMahon MR. BRODHEAD: We're getting pretty close, if you want to take a few minute break here. THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We'll go off the record. The time is approximately 4:43 p.m. (Off the record.)
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Vince McMahon

- a heel, which is not a very nice person.
- Q. Are there some fans who tune in to watch the heel characters, as far as you're aware?

MR. KRASIK: Objection.

- Just on their own. I don't know anymore, so than to tune in -- I could see someone tuning in to watch the super hero type, baby face,
- as we call them, characters. But it's the
- interaction of these characters that becomes the
- dynamic, not like one or the other, it's the 11

12 interaction.

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- 13 Q. Do you think people tune in to watch your character and your character's interaction with 14 15 others?
 - A. Again, I think it's important that we know where we're going. And it's the interaction that really, it's really important. So, yes, I do.
 - O. And some of those who would watch your character's interaction with others are living in Georgia?

MR, KRASIK: Objection, you're saying do people watch WWE shows?

24 Q. Some of the people who are following the interaction of the character Mr. McMahon with 25

Vince McMahon

known it was being broadcast Georgia, as well as 3 other states, correct?

A. Oh. sure.

- Q. Prior to the Royal Rumble, you also 5 knew that WWE licensed products were being sold in 6 Georgia, correct?
- A. Again, to my knowledge, there is no restriction as to why our licensed items would not be sold in the State of Georgia. I would expect them to be like they were sold everywhere else. 11

MR. BRODHEAD: If we could have this marked as McMahon 3

(McMahon Exhibit 3, letter, was marked for identification as of this date.)

MR. BRODHEAD: Please let the record reflect I'm showing the deponent what's been marked as Exhibit McMahon 3.

MR. KRASIK: I'm going to object to this Exhibit. I don't see what this has to do with whether Mr. McMahon is subject to jurisdiction in Georgia.

MR. BRODHEAD: There is just going to be one or two questions and then we'll be all the way done.

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Vince McMahon

other characters are watching the shows in Georgia; would you be aware that that's occurring?

MR. KRASIK: I object to the question. because Mr. McMahon can not speak as to why people in the State of Georgia may or may not be watching WWE programs. I think we can agree that people in Georgia watch WWE programs and some of them may watch because of the interaction of characters.

П A. I specifically recall one individual 12 who lives in the State of Georgia who watches 13 Mr. McMahon's character. And that's Larry Zbyszko 14 who proposed to Jim Ross that he be gainfully 15 employed by us in some way as to interact with the Mr. McMahon character. That's what he wanted to do. 17 It's one of the things he wanted to do. There's one 18 person in the State of Georgia that I'm certain is

Q. Okay. Have you ever personally used the phrase Living Legend to refer to Mr. Irvine or his character during any WWE broadcast?

23 A. I might have. I don't recall. If I 24 did. I certainly didn't make a habit of it.

Q. If you had used it, you would have

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Vince McMahon

MR. KRASIK: Okav.

- Are you familiar with that letter?
- Α. Would you allow me to read it first?
- Q. Certainly, go right ahead. (Witness peruses document.)
- Just for the record, I've never seen this letter before, so that's why I want to read it.
 - Q. That's fine.
- Α. Okay, read it.
- But you've not seen that letter before П 0. today? 12

Let's see. I just asked you for time 13 to read this letter because I stated the reason I 15 wanted to read it is because I've never seen it 16 before.

- 17 Q. And after completing your reading of 18 it, you maintain that opinion, that you've never 19 seen it before?
- 20 Α. I've never seen it before, including 21 the name of the town Alpharetta, Alpharetta,

22 Georgia -- that's a mouthful -- as to where

23 Mr. Whistler a/k/a Larry Zbyszko lives. Q. Are you familiar with Edward L. 24

25 Kaufman?

watching.

	Page 70		Page 72
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	Vince McMahon A Yes, I am. Q. Were you aware that Mr. Kaufman was sending a letter or any correspondence to Mr. Whistler? A. I don't recall, no. Q. Okay. MR. BRODHEAD: Let me actually just check over a couple of notes here. Q. When was the last time you've spoken to Mr. Whistler, if you've ever spoken to him? A. I think there was a telephone conversation a couple of years ago in which Larry again was looking for a job. I may have had a conversation with him concerning that in terms of but I don't recall. I may not have, either. I don't recall. There may have been a telephone call like hey, how are you doing, that type of deal. I know he called my office several times. I always directed him to Jim Ross who is in charge of talent relations. It would be JR's decision as to whether or not we bring Larry on. Larry also wanted to be a broadcaster for us because he had been one at Ted Turner's WCW before we bought it. And that was another	4 — 5 — 6 — 7 — 8 — 9 — 10 — 11 — 13 — 14 — 15 16 — 17 — 18 — 19 — 20 21 — 22 23 — Sull 24 — this	WITNESS'S CORRECTION SHEET AGE \ LINE \ CORRECTION VINCE MCMAHON Abscribed and sworn to before me Is
1 2	Page 71 Vince McMahon suggestion that he had as far as joining our	1 2 ST	Page 73 TATE OFCONNECTICUT)
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	company's concern. MR. BRODHEAD: I believe that's all I have. THE VIDEOGRAPHER: That will conclude the recording of this deposition. We are off the record 5.03 p.m., January 29th, 2003.	3 4 CC 5 6 do 7 to 8 no 9 wh 10 thi 11 12 13 tra 14 co 15 the 17 18 or 19 the 20 "W 21 sig 22 23 24 Su) SS: OUNTY OF STAMFORD) I, VINCE MCMAHON, a Defendant herein, or hereby certify that having been tirst duly sworm to testify to the truth, the whole truth and obthing but the truth, gave the above deposition, which was recorded stenggraphically and reduced to its original transcript. I FURTHERCERTIFY that the foregoing conscript of the said deposition is a true and orrect transcript of the testimony given by meat e time and place specified hereinbefore. I FURTHERCERTIFY that any corrections or changes to this testimony have been made by me on the page provided for that purpose captioned witness's Correction Sheet," which has also been given by me before a Notary Public. VINCE MCMAHON abscribed and sworm to before me this

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2	CERTIFICATE	
3		
4	1, DAWN TEDESCO, a Registered	
5	Professional Reporter and Notary Public	
_	within and for the State of Connecticut, do	
6		
7	hereby certify:	}
8	That VINCEMCMAHON the witness whose	
9	deposition is hereinbefore set forth, was	
10	duly swom by me and that the within	
11	transcript is a true record of the testimony	i
12	given by such wimess.	
	I further certify that I am not	
13		
14	related to any of the parties to this action	ì
15	by blood or marrage and that I	
16	am in no way interested in the outcome	
17	of this matter.	Į.
18	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto	
19	set my hand this day of,	
20	2003.	
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24	Dawn Tedesco. RPR	
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30 MEN
ONE MATCH
ONE W1NNER





Triple H^{int} completes his return to the ring in the biggest brawl of them all, and not he biggest plawf of them an, are not everyone is happy to see him.

30 Superstars duke it out in the squared circle...29 are leaving over the top rope and one is going to the JC::

main event at WrestleMania?

30-MAN ROYAL RUMBLE TRATCH Winner Gets Undisputed Title Shot At WrestleMania® X8

Galdust™ Boss Man^m Bradshawtm Lance Storm™ Al Snow *** Billy Gunn *** Undertaker o Matt Hardy™ Jeff Hardy #10

Aikishi ^{na}

Maven™ Scally 2 Hotty™ Christian Pa ODP IN

Chuck Palumbo M Godfather™ Albert M Perry Saturn¹³¹ Stone Cold Steve Austin ** Rob Van Dam*** Val Venis™

Triple Him
The Hurricane To
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Mr. Perfect To Nort Angle! Big Show™ Kane ".

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Undiefuted of Championerip Chris Jericho™ vs. The Rock®

STREET FIGHT (no DQ, no countagt) Vince McMahon M vs. Ric Flair 19

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INTERGONTINERITAL CHEMITICIECHI Edge¹⁰ vs. William Regal¹⁰

T INS TERM OHAMPIONSHIP Spike *** 6 Tazz **** us, the Budley Boyz ***

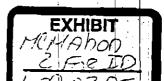
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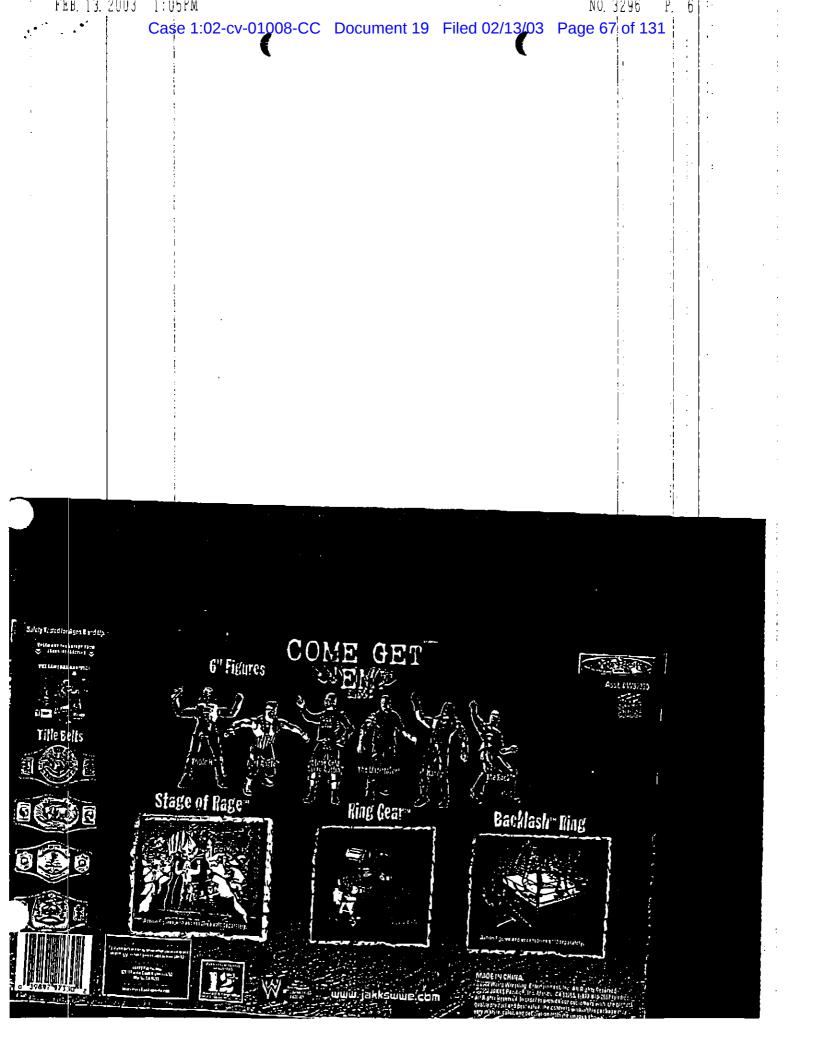


Aggrax, running lime: 3 hours. Recorded in sterco.

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• FEB. 13. 2003 1:05PM NO. 3296 P. 5





FEB. 13. 2003. Case 1:02-cv-01008-CC Document 19 Filed 02/13/03 Page 68 of 131 VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS February 15, 2002 World Wrestling Federation Mr. Larry Whistler Entertdinment, Inc. 425 Red Jacket Way Alpharetta, GA 30005 Dear Mr. Whistler: Per our discussion on February 1, 2002, we wish to confirm the following: Stamford, CT J6902 ©el: 203 352 8600 that you acknowledge that we have been using the mark THE LIVING 1. LEGEND in connection with products and services in connection with sports entertainment, and that we intend to continue to do so; and that you will not interfere with our use and registration of this mark 2. anywhere in the world, and that we may license or assign our rights as necessary.

Please confirm that you concur with the above statements by dating and signing below, where indicated, and returning it to us. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

World Wrestling Federation Entertainment, Inc.

EDWARD L. KAUMAN, Senior Vice President, General Counsel

Read, and Agreed to, by:		
LARRY WHISTLER	Dated:	, 2002
a.k.a. Larry Zabyszko		



EXHIBIT / ATTACHMENT

(To be scanned in place of tab)

Exhibit 5 is filed separately.



EXHIBIT / ATTACHMENT

(To be scanned in place of tab)

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1
         IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
 1
                 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
 2
                       ATLANTA DIVISION
     LARRY WHISTLER a/k/a
 3
     LARRY ZBYSZKO a/k/a THE
     LIVING LEGEND, an individual
 4
               Plaintiff,
 5
                                        Civil Action No.
                                        1 02-CV-1008-CC
 6
     Vs.
     WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT,
 7
     INC., a Delaware corporation;
     VINCE MCMAHON, an individual;
 8
     CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a CHRIS JERICHO
     a/k/a JERICHO, an individual,
 9
              Defendants.
10
11
             VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF CHRIS IRVINE
12
     Counsel for Plaintiff:
13
         BEN C. BRODHEAD, ESQUIRE
14
         Ben C. Brodhead, P.C.
         235 Peachtree Street, NE
15
         Suite 400
         Atlanta, Georgia 30303
16
         JOEL D. MYERS, ESQUIRE
17
         Myers & Kaplan, LLC
         1827 Powers Ferry Road
18
         Building 3, Suite 200
         Atlanta, Georgia 30339
19
     Counsel for Defendants:
20
         JOHN L. TAYLOR, JR., ESQUIRE
21
         Chorey, Taylor & Feil, P.C.
         The Lenox Building, Suite 1700
22
         3399 Peachtree Road, N.E.
         Atlanta, Georgia 30326
23
24
     Thomas Hallahan
                                          Patty Starks
     Videographer
                                          February 4, 2003
25
```

	T	
2		4
INDEX	i	District of Georgia, Atlanta Division. The
	2	case is entitled Larry Whistler also known as
2 3 CHRIS IRVINE PAGE	3	Larry Zbyszko also known as The Living Legend
1	4	
4		versus World Wrestling Entertainment.
5 Direct Examination by Mr. Brodhead 5	5	Incorporated: Vince McMahon; Chris Irvine also
6	6	known as Chris Jericho also know as Jericho.
7 Stipulations 61	7	I will now ask the attorneys to introduce
8 Reporter's Certificate of Oath 64	8	themselves, starting with the plaintiff's
9 Reporter's Deposition Certificate 65	9	attorney.
10	10	MR. BRODHEAD: This is Ben Brodhead,
11	11	attomey for plaintiff.
12 EXHIBITS	12	MR. MYERS: Joel Myers, attorney for
13 Exhibit No. 1	13	plaintiff.
14 Exhibit No. 2	14	MR. TAYLOR: My name is John Taylor, and
15 Exhibit No. 3	15	I'm the attorney for the defendants.
16 Exhibit No. 4	16	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Would the court
17	17	reporter please swear in the witness.
18	81	CHRIS IRVINE, called as a witness by the
19	19	Plaintiff, having been first duly sworn, testified
20	20	as follows:
21	21	MR. BRODHEAD: This will be the deposition
	22	
22	23	of Chris Irvine taken for the purposes of
23	1	discovery and cross-examination and all other
24	24	purposes permissible under the Federal Rules
25	25	of Civil Procedure. It is taken pursuant to
	 	
PURSUANT TO NOTICE for the taking of the	l	the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
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			 _	
		6		8
	1	mean to interrupt you.	l i	A. Yes.
	2	MR. BRODHEAD: No. That's no problem at	2	Q. Is the name Chris Jericho trademarked?
	3	ail.	3	A. Yes.
	4	BY MR. BRODHEAD:	4	Q. And who owns that trademark?
	5	Q. As you have been doing, I'll ask that you	5	A. Chris Irvine.
	6	give a verbal answer to a question rather than an	6	Q. When do you contend that the trademark was
	7	uh-huh or an uh-uh or a nod of the head or a shaking	7	established?
	8	of the head. The reason for that is although we	8	MR. TAYLOR: Object to the form of the
	9	are on video, most of the record will be referred to	9	question insofar as it calls for a legal
	10	on paper, and uh-uh or uh-huh might not be	10	conclusion. You can answer that if you know.
	11	translated properly. Is that agreeable?	111	A. I don't really understand the question.
	12	A. Yes.	12	
	13		13	Q. How about this. Do you believe that your
		Q. I try to ask clear questions, but being an		trademark for Chris Jericho began when you started
	14	attorney sometimes I do not. Will you agree with me	14	using the name Chris Jericho?
	15	that if you do not understand a question you will	15	A. Legally?
	16	tell me?	16	Q. Yes.
	17	A. Yes.	17	A. No.
	81	Q. Are you currently under the influence of	18	Q. Have you gone through the process of
	19	any drugs or alcohol?	19	registering the name Chris Jericho?
	20	A. No.	20	A. Yes.
	21	Q. Is there anything that would prevent you	21	Q. When did you go through that process?
	22	from truthfully and completely answering my	22	A. 1998.
	23	questions today?	23	Q. That was the federal registration of the
	24	A. No.	24	trademark?
	25	Q. I'll be referring throughout this	25	A. Yes.
		7		9
			,	·
	1	deposition to the organization of WWE.	1 2	Q. Did you use any attorneys to help you with that registration?
	2	MR. BRODHEAD: Can we agree that if I refer	3	A. Yes.
	3	to WWE that would also include its predecessor	4	Q. Where were those attorneys located?
	4	name WWF and so forth? Is that okay with		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	5	everyone here?	5	A. Minneapolis.
	6	MR. TAYLOR: Okay with me.	6 7	Q. Do you have any ownership in any
	7	THE WITNESS: Yes.	l _	corporations?
	8	BY MR. BRODHEAD:	8	A. Um, I don't understand the question.
	9	Q. Is it correct that you're also as well		Q. Well, do you hold any stock in any
	10	as being known as Chris Irvine, you're also known as	10	companies, first of all? A. Yes.
	11	Chris Jericho?	11	
	12	A. Yes.	12	Q. Do you hold entire ownership of any
ĺ	13	Q. How long have you been known as Chris	13	company, all the stock in any company?
	14	Jericho?	14	A. No.
l	15	A. 13 years.	15	Q. And have you ever incorporated the name
	16	Q. When did you first begin using the name	16	Chris Jericho?
	17	Chris Jericho?	17	A. Have I ever incorporated the name
	18	A. Um, 13 years ago.	18	Chris Jericho?
	19	Q. I'm sorry. And for what purpose did you	19	Q. Yeah, like Chris Jericho, Incorporated,
	20	begin using the name Chris Jericho?	20	or
	21	For wrestling purposes.	21	A. Um, no.
	22	Q. And with what organization was that or were	22	Q. Okay. Have you ever incorporated your own
1	23	you independent?	23	name, Chris Irvine?
j	24	A. Independent.	24	A. Yes.
	25	Q. Are you familiar with what a trademark is?	25	Q. When did you do that?
- 1				

10 12 just one contract you've had your entire time there A. Um, approximately three years ago. 1 or is it renewed at any other time frame? Q. And what is the proper name that you 2 3 A. Um, there's a three-year contract, and then 3 incorporated? A. Chris Irvine, Incorporated. I'm currently under another three-year contract. 4 5 Q. Do you know if the terms of the first and 5 Q. Is it "incorporated" spelled out or second contract are the same? abbreviated? 6 7 A. Abbreviated. 7 A. Yes, I do know. I know they're not the 8 same. 8 Q. In what state did you incorporate? 9 A. Florida. 9 MR. BRODHEAD: Do you have the copies of 10 Q. Did you use Florida attorneys to assist in 10 the contracts? Okay. I assume there wouldn't be an objection to producing the contracts? 11 11 that incorporation? 12 MR. TAYLOR: I'll take it under 12 A. I don't recall. Q. Have you registered that corporation in 13 advisement. Have we produced them? 13 BY MR. BRODHEAD: 14 Georgia? 14 15 A. No. 15 Q. Under your contract, do you perform as a Q. What is your current address? 16 wrestler for WWE? 16 A. 9817 Compass Point Way, Tampa, Florida. 17 A. Yes. 17 Q. And the ZIP code? 18 Q. And you receive compensation for your 18 19 performances as a wrestler? 19 A. 33615. A. Yes. 20 Q. How long have you been at that address? 20 21 Q. Do you own any residences in Georgia? 21 A. Three years. 22 Q. What was your address previous to that? 22 23 A. Um. somewhere in Clearwater. I don't 23 Q. Do you own any property in Georgia? 24 24 recall the exact address. A. No. 25 O. Do you have ownership of any businesses in 25 Q. Do you know how long you were at the 13 11 Georgia? 1 location in Clearwater? 1 2 A. Um, it's possible. I don't know for sure. 2 A. One year. 3 Q. Okay. Can you explain that further, by 3 Q. And what about previous to that? what you mean "it's possible"? A. Orlando, Florida, for one year and a 4 5 5 A. I have a band, and we have an LLC. I don't half -- no, one year. 6 know if it's based in Georgia or not. 6 Q. What's your current work address? 7 Q. Now, that band, is it Fozzy? 7 A. Work address? 8 A. Yeah, 8 Q. Do you have a work address? 9 Q. Is that how it's pronounced, Fozzy? 9 A. No. 10 Q. What's your current employment? 10 Α. 11 Q. What is your position with that band? A. WWE. 11 12 Singer. Q. And do you know whether you're an employee 12 O. What is the name of the LLC? 13 13 of WWE or an independent contractor? A. I believe it's Fozzy, LLC, but I don't 14 14 A. Independent contractor. 15 recall for sure. 15 Q. How long have you been an independent MR. TAYLOR: How do you spell that? 16 contractor at WWE? 16 THE WITNESS: The band? F-o-z-z-y. 17 17 A. Three and a half years.

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agreement?

A. Yes.

with WWE in writing?

Q. And that independent contractor agreement,

is there a specific written independent contractor

Q. Is your independent contractor agreement

Q. Is that contract renewed annually or is it

A. I don't understand the question.

BY MR. BRODHEAD:

A. I don't recall.

A. Not directly, no.

Rich Ward.

Q. Do you know when the LLC was formed?

A. Myself and one other -- another guy named

O. Who has ownership in the LLC?

Q. Did you handle forming the LLC?

}	14		16
1	Q. Did you hire attorneys to do that?	1	Q. Sure.
2	A. The band has a manager. So I don't recall	2	A. Tampa.
3	what he did.	3	Q. Do you own any vehicles registered in the
4	Q. Okay. Who is the manager?	4	state of Georgia?
5	A. Mark Willis.	5	A. No.
6	Q. I apologize. I've just forgot this. When	6	Q. When was the last time that you were in
7	did you say the band became an LLC?	7	Georgia?
8	A. I said I didn't recall.	8	 One month ago, maybe.
9	Q. Oh, okay. Can you tell me within, you	9	Q. What was the purpose of that trip to
10	know, some time frame? Like was it within the past	10	Georgia'?
11	two years, past five years?	- 11	 A. Band, band rehearsal.
12	A. It would be somewhere between '99 and the	12	Q. And where does the band rehearse?
13	year 2000; quite possibly the year 2000.	13	A. Um, in Atlanta.
14	Q. And you're not certain, but Fozzy, LLC, may	14	Q. Is there a specific location that the band
15	be a registered LLC in Georgia?	15	rehearses in Atlanta?
16	A. Yes, it may be. I don't know for sure; so	16	A. Yeah, but I couldn't tell you. I don't
I 7	I can't say for sure. I know we have one, and the	17	recall what the address is.
18	manager lives in Atlanta, and so that's why I'm	18	Q. Okay. How often do you rehearse with the
19	saying that.	19	band in Atlanta?
20	Q. Do you have any other ownership or do you	20	 A. Hardly ever. That was the first time.
21	have any ownership in any other businesses in	21	Q. Has your band ever made any CDs?
22	Georgia?	22	A. Yes.
23	A. No.	23	Q. And was that CD recorded in Atlanta?
24	Q. With your manager for Fozzy, LLC,	24	A. Yes.
25	Mark Willis, did you enter into any management	25	Q. What was the name of the CD?
	15		17
1	contracts with Mr. Willis?	1	A. The first CD is called Fozzy. The second
2	A. No.	2	CD is called Happenstance.
3	Q. Okay. Have you ever entered into any	3	Q. And were both of those recorded in Atlanta?
4	contracts in the state of Georgia?	4	A. Yes.
5	A. Have I ever in my life?	5	Q. Do you remember the name of the studio?
6	Q. Yes.	6	A. I don't recall.
7	A. Yes.	7	Q. Was Mark Willis your manager for both of
8	Q. What contracts do you recall entering into	8	those?
9	in the state of Georgia?	9	A. Yes.
10	A. WCW.	10	Q. How long did it take to record Fozzy,
11	Q. And would you state for the record what the	11	meaning the first CD?
12	abbreviation WCW stands for.	12	A. Just my part of the CD or the entire CD?
13	A. World Championship Wrestling.	13	Q. Let's go with just your part of the CD.
14	Q. What were the dates of your work with WCW?	14	A. Seven days.
I 5	A. August of '96 through July of '99.	15	Q. And how were how long were you in
16	Q. So in July of '99 you stopped working with	16	Atlanta in association with your efforts to record
17	WCW?	17	the first CD, Fozzy?
18	A. That's correct,	18	A. Um, seven days.
19	Q. And why was that?	19	Q. How long were you in Atlanta in reference
20	A. I moved to WWF, WWE now.	20	to recording Happenstance?
21	Q. Do you know where the contract with WWF was	21	A. About the same.

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22 executed, where you signed it?

Q. Yes.

A. Where I signed it?

A. Where I physically signed it?

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Q. Were both CDs, Fozzy and Happenstance,

Q. And did you derive income from the sale of

23 placed on the market for sale?

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- 1 Fozzy and Happenstance?
- 2 A. From the sales, no. From the recording,
- 3 yes.
- 4 Q. Would you tell me what you mean by -- how
- 5 were you paid for the recording?
- A. You get a lump-sum at the beginning to
- 7 record the record. After the record has been
- 8 recorded and the expenses are taken out, then you
- 9 get the rest. Then after a certain amount of sales
- 10 is reached to recoup that original lump-sum, then
- 11 you make money on top of that, which could take a
- 12 long time to finally see it.
- 13 Q. And at this point you haven't seen anything
- 14 beyond the lump-sum --
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. -- on either CD?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. What was the amount of the lump-sum you
- 19 received on Fozzy?
- 20 A. The band or Chris Irvine?
- 21 Q. Chris Irvine, you.
- 22 A. I don't recall.
- 23 Q. Can you give me an estimate? Are we
- 24 talking hundreds of thousands of dollars or tens of
- 25 thousands?

- 1 Q. And that's per show?
- A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And it was about six shows?
- A. Give or take.
- 5 Q. Is there any other way other than the
- 6 lump-sum recording fees and the per-show fees that

20

21

- 7 you received that you have derived income from your
- 8 work with Fozzy in the state of Georgia?
- 9 A. I don't recall. I don't think so, but I
- 10 don't recall for sure.
- II Q. And I apologize if I asked this before.
- 12 What was the date of the recording of Fozzy, the
- 13 first CD?

18

- 14 A. June or July of 2000.
- 15 Q. And the date of the recording of
- 16 Happenstance?
- 17 A. February of 2002.
 - Q. Other than income that was derived from
- 19 your work with Fozzy and your work with the WWE,
- 20 WWF, and WCW have you derived any income from work
- 21 in Georgia?
- 22 A. Can you repeat the question, please.
- 23 Q. Yes. Other than your work with Fozzy, WWE,
- 24 WWF, and WCW have you derived any income from work
- 25 in the state of Georgia?
- 1 A. Probably around ten to fifteen thousand 2 dollars.
- 3 Q. And what was the amount paid to you in the
- 4 initial lump-sum on Happenstance?
- 5 A. \$30,000.
- 6 Q. Have you ever recorded for any other bands
- 7 other than Fozzy?
- 8 A. No.
- Q. Have you received any other payments other
- 10 than the recording fees for your work with Fozzy in
- II the state of Georgia?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And what were the ways that you received
- 14 income from --
- 15 A. From playing live shows.
- 16 Q. How many live shows did you play in Georgia
- 17 under the name of -- with the band Fozzy?
- 18 A. I don't recall. Probably half a dozen.
- 19 Q. And what would you make per show?
- 20 A. It varies.
- 21 Q. What's the range that it would vary
- 22 between?
- 23 A. In Georgia?
- 24 Q. Yes.
- A. Probably somewhere from 500 to \$1,000.

A. No.

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- Q. Have you ever lived in the state of
- 3 Georgia?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. How often do you perform for WWE in the
- 6 state of Georgia? We can go on a per-year basis or
- 7 if you can think of it as in how many times you
- 8 performed, say, in 2002.
- 9 A. I don't recall that. I'd say approximately
- 10 four to six times a year.
- 11 Q. And are you paid for by WWE for each one
- 12 of those performances in Georgia?
 - A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Is each one of the performances paid
- 15 pursuant to a separate pay agreement or do they all
- 16 pay the same?
- 17 A. Explain the question, please.
 - Q. It probably wasn't a very good question
- 19 actually. How much do you get paid per appearance
- 20 for WWE?
- 21 A. It depends on how many people show up.
- 22 Q. Is it a percentage of ticket sales or do
- 23 you know how it's calculated?
- 24 A. I really don't know.
 - Q. Okay. I want to verify some dates and tell

22 24 me if you understand these as correct. My Į A. What's the exact date on that July? understanding is that you've performed in Georgia on 2 Q. July 9th of 2001. And I might be able to 2 show you something to refresh your recollection on 3 the following events. I'll -- it might be quicker 3 4 if I just go through all of them, and you can tell 4 these because I think that -- I think we have it me if they're correct or incorrect. 5 5 here. It might be just a little bit of fumbling through papers. What I'm showing -- what I'm 6 A. Okay. 6 7 7 Q. Okay. I understand that you performed on showing is on July 9th of 2001 that your pay would 8 February 5th of 2001 in Atlanta, Georgia, on the 8 have been \$2,000. 9 event Raw is War; July 9th of 2001 in Atlanta, MR. TAYLOR: Hold on a minute. What are 10 10 Georgia, in the event Raw is War; January 20th, you reading from? 2002, in Atlanta for the Royal Rumble; May 18th, 11 11 MR. BRODHEAD: Reading from documents 12 2002, in Macon, Georgia, for a WWE live event; 12 that were produced by defendant for pay of 13 June 8th of 2002 in Albany, Georgia, for a live 13 individuals. 14 event. June 9th in -- of 2002 in Augusta, Georgia, 14 MR. TAYLOR: If --15 for a live event; July 7th of 2002 in Savannah, 15 MR. BRODHEAD: And it is going to what Georgia, for a live event; and then December 12th of 16 point he remembers. If he doesn't remember 17 2002 in Atlanta, Georgia, for a Smackdown. Do those 17 18 sound accurate? 18 MR. TAYLOR: Well, I was just going to 19 A. No, not entirely. 19 say. I mean, if you recognize this document, 20 20 Q. Okay. Which ones do not sound accurate? it refreshes your memory, then I suppose you 21 A. The December 12th Smackdown. I was not 21 can say that. But I speculate he's probably 22 there. 22 never seen this document before. Why don't 23 23 Q. Were you scheduled to perform at that you show it to him? 24 event? 24 MR. BRODHEAD: Yeah, why don't we do 25 A. No. 25 that. You don't have any personal notes in 23 25 here or anything like that? 1 Q. Okay, And were you at all the other events Ţ 2 2 that were mentioned? MR. MYERS: No. 3 A. I believe so. 3 MR. BRODHEAD: Okay. MR. TAYLOR: Does it have a Bates number? 4 Q. And were you paid for all the other events 4 5 5 Is the document identified -that were mentioned? 6 A. Yes. 6 MR. BRODHEAD: The document is identified 7 Q. What is the range of pay that you would 7 number as Zbyszko/WWE0049. 8 MR. TAYLOR: All right. Mr. Irvine, if receive -- I guess actually that's not a good 9 you have seen this document before or if by 9 question. Let me start this over. How much would 10 looking at it your personal recollection is you have made at an appearance of, let's say, February 5th of 2001, Raw is War? Do you have any 11 refreshed as to what you may have made, you 12 idea how much --12 can answer that. But I -- Ben doesn't want A. I don't recall. 13 you to speculate and neither do I. 13 14 THE WITNESS: I've never seen this 14 Q. Do you have any idea how much you would 15 15 have paid July 9th of 2001 for Raw is War? document before. BY MR. BRODHEAD: 16 A. I don't recall. 16 17 Q. Do you recall the amount that you made for 17 Q. Okay. 18 Royal Rumble in January 20th of '02? 18 A. And it's probably correct. So -- but I 19 A. No, I don't recall. 19 didn't --

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recollection of it?

have an individual recollection.

A. No.

Q. But you don't have an individual

A. I have the records at home, but I don't

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Q. Is it possible that that amount was

Q. Can you give me a range of what you think

you might have made at Raw is War in, say, July of

somewhere around \$50,000?

A. Yes.

2001?

26 28 Q. Okay. That's fine. I apologize if I'm A. I was just smiling for the camera. I covering old ground, but just to make sure I have it 2 O. Okay. 2 on the record here, am I correct that on all the 3 MR. TAYLOR: Old habits die hard. 4 dates that we mentioned, except for December 12th of 4 Q. Have you ever used the phrase Living Legend in reference to your self? 2002, that you did work as a wrestler, and you were 6 paid for that, and the work was done in Georgia? A. Yes. 7 7 Q. How many times have you used the phrase 8 Q. When you would be performing an event in 8 Living Legend in reference to yourself? 9 Georgia for WWE or WWF, would there be any separate 9 A. I don't recall. 10 Q. Are you familiar with Vince McMahon? agreement that you would enter with WWE or anyone ΙI else regarding that performance in Georgia? 11 A. Yes. 12 A. I don't understand the question. 12 Q. Has Vince McMahon ever used the phrase 13 13 Living Legend in reference to you? Q. Well, you have one independent contractor 14 A. I don't recall. 14 agreement with WWE; is that correct? 15 1.5 Q. Did you ever discuss using the phrase Living Legend in reference to yourself with 16 Q. When you would perform in Georgia, were 17 17 Mr. McMahon? there any supplemental agreements or amendments that A. I don't recall. were made to your independent contractor agreement? 18 18 19 19 Q. Is there an approval process that you would A. No. Not that I know of, no. have to go through in order to use a particular name 20 Q. Nothing that you would have signed? 20 in reference to yourself during a WWE event? 21 A. No. 22 22 Q. Have you ever wrestled under the name 23 Chris Irvine for WCW? 23 Q. Has the WWE or anyone on behalf of WWE ever 24 told you not to use a specific name in reference to A. No. yourselt? 25 Q. Have you ever wrestled under the name Chris 29 27 Irvine for WWF or WWE? A. I don't recall. I don't believe so, 1 2 A. No. 2 though. Maybe for some guys but not for me. Q. Is there also -- I believe we had stated 3 Q. Are you aware of any specific instances 3 when the WWE told a wrestler that he or she could 4 earlier that there was a trademark for Chris 5 5 Jericho; is that correct? not use a particular name? A. Yes. 6 7 Q. Do you also used the term "Living Legend" 7 O. Is there also a trademark for Jericho? to refer to yourself at events in Georgia? 8 A. I don't recall. 9 A. No, not that I recall. Q Q. Have you had any other names trademarked? 10 Q. Do you know if any announcers referred to 10 A. Myself personally? you as Living Legend -- strike that. Have any 11 Q. Or trademarks that you might own, yes. announcers for the WWE during WWE events ever A. No. 12 referred to you as Living Legend? 13 Q. Okay. Is Y2J trademarked? 13 14 A. I don't recall a specific incident, but 14 A. I'm sure it is through the WWE, not through 15 it's quite possible. 15 Q. Do you have control over what -- I'm sorty. Q. Okay. So you would not have ownership in 16 Do you have control over how announcers refer to 17 17 that trademark? 18 you? 18 A. No. 19 19 A. No. Q. In all the events that we spoke of earlier 20 Who would suggest to the announcers what to 20 that you have wrestled in, you wrestled under the 21 name Chris Jericho; is that correct? 21 say?

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A. In Georgia?

Q. Was there --

Q. Yes.

A. Yes.

A. I don't know who --

Q. Well, I guess what I'm trying to figure out

the Living Legend, how would they have known to do

is, if the announcers might have referred to you as

	30	•	32
l	this?	1 Q. Is Smackdown one that's sold by	
2	A. Just from watching the TV maybe. I don't	2 A. No.	
3	know. I mean, I don't understand.	3 Q. – Pay Per View?	
4	Q. But you don't know of anyone who instructs	4 A. No.	
5	the announcers to use particular names?	5 Q. Is Raw is War sold by Pay Per View	/2
6	A. No.	6 A. No.	•
7	Q. Okay. And you don't personally instruct	7 Q. Can you remember any of the other	names?
8	the announcers what name to use when referring to	8 A. Wrestle Mania, King of the Ring, St	
9	vou?	9 Series, Summer Slam, and then seven other	
10	A. No.	10 MR. TAYLOR: You must not be mu	
11	Q. On what instances have you used the term	II THE WITNESS: They change them	
12	"Living Legend" in reference to yourself?	12 time.	
13	A. I don't understand the complete question.	13 MR. TAYLOR: I know more than th	at.
14	Q. I guess I'm looking for, have you used it	I4 BY MR. BRODHEAD:	
15	during events, magazines, websites? What	15 Q. I'm having trouble coming up with a	Leood
16	circumstances under what circumstances have you	16 question for this, but I'll let you know what	
17	used the name Living Legend in reference to	17 trying to find out. I'm trying to find out ho	
18	yourself?	18 know you did not use Living Legend to ref	
19	A. Live shows. Um, other than that, I don't	19 yourself to refer to yourself in the Pay Po	
20	recall specific ones.	20 events.	
21	Q. Are live shows broadcast?	21 A. In the Pay Per View events?	
22	A. Are they broadcast?	22 Q. Yes.	
23	Q. Yes.	23 A. How I know that I didn't?	
24	A. Yes.	24 Q. Right.	
25	Q. Do you know if the live shows in which you	25 A. Well, because I don't recall doing an	1
	(. ,,,,,,,		
	31		33
1	31 participate are broadcast into Georgia?	I interview at the Pay Per View or possibly	
1 2		2 Per Views when I was using the term.	y two Pay
	participate are broadcast into Georgia?	2 Per Views when I was using the term.3 Q. During what period were you using	y two Pay
2	participate are broadcast into Georgia? A. Yes.	 Per Views when I was using the term. Q. During what period were you usin "Living Legend"? 	y two Pay
2 3	participate are broadcast into Georgia? A. Yes. Q. And were you aware that the events you	 Per Views when I was using the term. Q. During what period were you using "Living Legend"? A. January of 2002, possibly Februar 	y two Pay ng the term ry as well.
2 3 4	participate are broadcast into Georgia? A. Yes. Q. And were you aware that the events you participated in were broadcast into Georgia when you	 Per Views when I was using the term. Q. During what period were you using "Living Legend"? A. January of 2002, possibly Februar Q. Were you using it at all in 2001, a 	y two Pay ng the term ry as well.
2 3 4 5	participate are broadcast into Georgia? A. Yes. Q. And were you aware that the events you participated in were broadcast into Georgia when you used the phrase Living Legend to describe yourself?	 Per Views when I was using the term. Q. During what period were you using "Living Legend"? A. January of 2002, possibly Februar Q. Were you using it at all in 2001, a you recall? 	y two Pay ng the term ry as well. as far as
2 3 4 5 6	participate are broadcast into Georgia? A. Yes. Q. And were you aware that the events you participated in were broadcast into Georgia when you used the phrase Living Legend to describe yourself? A. I don't know for sure. I mean, I would assume so. Q. Are you aware that some of the events you	 2 Per Views when I was using the term. 3 Q. During what period were you using 4 "Living Legend"? 5 A. January of 2002, possibly Februar 6 Q. Were you using it at all in 2001, a you recall? 8 A. I don't recall. It's possible, but I don't recall. 	y two Pay ng the term ry as well. as far as
2 3 4 5 6 7	participate are broadcast into Georgia? A. Yes. Q. And were you aware that the events you participated in were broadcast into Georgia when you used the phrase Living Legend to describe yourself? A. I don't know for sure. I mean, I would assume so. Q. Are you aware that some of the events you participated in are sold via Pay Per View in	 Per Views when I was using the term. Q. During what period were you using "Living Legend"? A. January of 2002, possibly Februar Q. Were you using it at all in 2001, a you recall? A. I don't recall. It's possible, but I do recall for sure. 	y two Pay ng the term ry as well. ss far as
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	participate are broadcast into Georgia? A. Yes. Q. And were you aware that the events you participated in were broadcast into Georgia when you used the phrase Living Legend to describe yourself? A. I don't know for sure. I mean, I would assume so. Q. Are you aware that some of the events you	 2 Per Views when I was using the term. 3 Q. During what period were you using 4 "Living Legend"? 5 A. January of 2002, possibly Februar 6 Q. Were you using it at all in 2001, at you recall? 8 A. I don't recall. It's possible, but I depend for sure. 10 Q. Are Pay Per View events advertise 	y two Pay ng the term ry as well. ss far as
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	participate are broadcast into Georgia? A. Yes. Q. And were you aware that the events you participated in were broadcast into Georgia when you used the phrase Living Legend to describe yourself? A. I don't know for sure. I mean, I would assume so. Q. Are you aware that some of the events you participated in are sold via Pay Per View in	 2 Per Views when I was using the term. Q. During what period were you using "Living Legend"? A. January of 2002, possibly Februar Q. Were you using it at all in 2001, a you recall? A. I don't recall. It's possible, but I decell for sure. Q. Are Pay Per View events advertise as you know? 	y two Pay ng the term ry as well. ss far as
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	participate are broadcast into Georgia? A. Yes. Q. And were you aware that the events you participated in were broadcast into Georgia when you used the phrase Living Legend to describe yourself? A. I don't know for sure. I mean, I would assume so. Q. Are you aware that some of the events you participated in are sold via Pay Per View in Georgia?	 2 Per Views when I was using the term. Q. During what period were you using "Living Legend"? A. January of 2002, possibly Februar Q. Were you using it at all in 2001, a you recall? A. I don't recall. It's possible, but I derecall for sure. Q. Are Pay Per View events advertise as you know? A. Yes. 	y two Pay ng the term ry as well. as far as don't ed as far
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	participate are broadcast into Georgia? A. Yes. Q. And were you aware that the events you participated in were broadcast into Georgia when you used the phrase Living Legend to describe yourself? A. I don't know for sure. I mean, I would assume so. Q. Are you aware that some of the events you participated in are sold via Pay Per View in Georgia? A. Am I aware of it? Q. Yes. A. Yes.	 2 Per Views when I was using the term. Q. During what period were you using "Living Legend"? A. January of 2002, possibly Februar Q. Were you using it at all in 2001, a you recall? A. I don't recall. It's possible, but I derecall for sure. Q. Are Pay Per View events advertise as you know? A. Yes. Q. Do you know if you're ever include. 	y two Pay ng the term ry as well. as far as don't ed as far
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	participate are broadcast into Georgia? A. Yes. Q. And were you aware that the events you participated in were broadcast into Georgia when you used the phrase Living Legend to describe yourself? A. I don't know for sure. I mean, I would assume so. Q. Are you aware that some of the events you participated in are sold via Pay Per View in Georgia? A. Am I aware of it? Q. Yes.	2 Per Views when I was using the term. 3 Q. During what period were you using "Living Legend"? 5 A. January of 2002, possibly Februar Q. Were you using it at all in 2001, a you recall? 6 A. I don't recall. It's possible, but I do recall for sure. 7 Q. Are Pay Per View events advertise as you know? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Do you know if you're ever included those advertisements for Pay Per View events.	y two Pay ng the term ry as well. as far as don't ed as far
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1 advertisements for Pay Per View events?

- 2 A. I don't know.
- 3 Q. Do you know of any other -- do you know of
- 4 any times when WWE has used Living Legend in
- 5 reference to you in either promoting a show or --
- 6 well, let's go with that. Do you know of any times
- 7 that WWE has ever used the name Living Legend to
- 8 promote a show?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Has the name Living Legend ever been used 11 to promote a specific match that you know of?
- MR. TAYLOR: This is ever?
- MR. BRODHEAD: Yeah. And actually let me qualify that.
- 15 Q. Has the term "Living Legend" ever been
- 16 used in reference to you in order to promote a
- 17 particular match?
- 18 A. I don't recall. I don't know.
- 19 Q. Are you familiar with Larry Whistler, who
- 20 is also known as Larry Zbyszko?
- 21 A. Yes
- 22 Q. When did you become familiar with him?
- 23 A, 1996.
- 24 Q. In 1996 were you aware that he used the
- 25 name Living Legend to promote himself?

- A. Through the WWE you mean or WCW?
- Q. Well, that would be fine. In any way.
- 3 A. I believe so, yes.
 - Q. Is that a is the licensing agreement
- 5 separate from your independent contractor agreement?

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- A. I believe they're intertwined.
- Q. Are you paid anything separate from your
- 8 wrestling fees for use of your name on products?
- A. Yes.
- 10 Q. What are you paid for that?
 - A. I don't recall.
- 12 Q. Is it your understanding that products that
- 13 are licensed with your name on them are sold in
- 14 Georgia?
 - A. Tassume so.
 - Q. Have you ever personally signed any
- 17 licensing agreements for products that you're aware
- 18 of?
- 19 A. I don't think so.
 - Q. Do you have approval over the character
- 21 names and phrases that are used to describe you for
- 22 licensed products?
- 23 A. No.
- Q. Who makes that determination?
 - A. I don't know. The companies that release

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- 1 A. Possibly. Probably in 1997 or so.
 - Q. So as of 1997 you were aware that
- 3 Larry Zbyszko, Larry Whistler used the name Living
- 4 Legend?

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- 5 A. It's possible. It may have been 1996, but
- 6 by '97 for sure.
- 7 Q. How did you end up meeting Mr. Whistler?
- 8 A. He was a commentator in WCW when I started
- 9 there.
- 10 Q. At that point were you aware that he lived
- 11 in Georgia?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. Have you ever become aware that he lived in
- 14 Georgia?
- 15 A. No. Not until at this moment.
- 16 Q. Did you ever have any interaction with
- 17 Mr. Whistler other than with him announcing matches
- 18 that you were in?
- 19 A. No, not really.
- 20 Q. Have you ever entered into any licensing
- 21 agreements for any reason?
- 22 A. I'm not sure I know what a licensing
- 23 agreement is.
- 24 Q. Any agreements where you agree to let
- others use perhaps the name Chris Jericho?

- the products maybe.
 - Q. If there were a phrase being used to
 - 3 describe you on a particular product and you did not
- 4 approve, would you be able to have that name removed
- 5 from the product?
 - A. I don't understand the question.
- 7 Q. Well, let me ask you this. Have you ever
- 8 seen a licensed product with your name on it?
- A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Have you ever seen a licensed product with
- 11 your name on it that included content that you did
- 12 not approve of?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. Had you ever seen one that had content that
- 15 you did not approve of, would you have been able to
- 16 remove that content?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Why not?
- 19 A. Because we have no -- nothing to do or no
- 20 control over things like that. Half the time we
- 21 don't even see half the products that are released
- 22 of us. By the time we see them, they're already on
- 23 the shelves.
- 24 Q. Have you ever seen a product licensed by
- 25 WWE or anyone else that used the term "Living

38 40 A. Sometimes. Legend" reference to you? 1 2 A. No. Q. On what occasions have you had input on the 2 MR. BRODHEAD: I assume he's going to say 3 story line? 3 he's not seen this before, and that's fine. 4 A. It's a pretty intricate process but most of 4 the time you have some sort of say in what's going 5 What we'll do is call this Exhibit 1. I have 6 a black and white photocopy of it. 6 on; not total control, but you can definitely add 7 MR. TAYLOR: No. I want that. 7 your two cents in. MR. BRODHEAD: Okay. We can certainly 8 Q. How long do story lines usually last? 8 9 9 make that available. Actually I didn't give A. Now-a-days two weeks, sometimes two months, 10 you this. Let the record reflect I'm having 10 maybe a little bit longer, three months. the court reporter mark the exhibit as Irvine 11 Q. At another point in time did they used to I 1 last longer? 12 12 13 A. Yes. 13 (Irvine I marked for ID purposes.) (An off-the-record discussion was had.) 14 Q. When did they become shorter? 14 MR. TAYLOR: What are we --A. I don't recall for sure, maybe the last two 15 or three years, four years, five years. MR. BRODHEAD: I'm just going to ask him 16 16 17 Q. Is it your understanding that story lines 17 if he's ever seen this product; that's all. 18 are used to attract viewers? 18 MR. TAYLOR: Okay. 19 19 A. That's the intent. MR. BRODHEAD: Let the record reflect I'm 20 showing the deponent what's been marked as 20 Q. And is it your understanding that the story 21 Irvine 1. 21 lines are used to keep viewers watching future 22 events as well? 22 BY MR. BRODHEAD: 23 A. That's the idea, yeah. 23 Q. Do you recognize this product? 24 Q. Am I correct that WWE has events that take 24 A. Yes. place all over the U.S.? 25 Q. Have you seen this product before? 39 41 A. Yes. I A. I don't recall. I don't believe so. 1 2 Q. And the story lines might be continued from 2 Q. Okay. Is the picture in the lower 3 event to event? 3 left-hand corner marked with "I'm a Living Legend," 4 A. Yes. is that you? 4 5 5 Q. Meaning that the story line might be A. Yes. continued in several different states? Q. Okay. Do you have any ownership in Jakks 6 7 A. Yeah, It's possible, yes, 7 Pacific? 8 Q. Is the rise of one character to the level 8 A. No. 9 of champion of WWE considered a story line? 9 Q. Do you have any control of Jakks Pacific? A. No. 10 A. Yes. 10 Q. When did you become -- well, did you become Q. Do you have any involvement in the products П 11 champion of WWE? that are produced by Jakks Pacific? 12 12 A. Yes. 13 13 A. No. 14 Q. When was that that you became champion of Q. Is the term "story line" ever used in the 14 the WWE? 15 wrestling industry? 15 A. Yes. 16 A. December of 2001. 16 Q. What is a story line? 17 Q. And did you defend your title as champion 17 of WWE in the Royal Rumble of January 20, 2002? A. It's pretty much self-explanatory. 18 18 19 Q. Basically it's just a series of events that 19 20 Q. And did you win that event? 20 occurs? 21 A. Uh-huh (indicating affirmatively). 21 A. Of course, I always win. 22 Q. Okay. 22 Q. And that's planned? 23 MR. TAYLOR: You're under oath now. 23 A. Yes. THE WITNESS: You better strike that. 24 24 Q. Do you have any input regarding the story lines used by WWE? 25 Q. And just so I can understand this

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process, when you begin with WWE or when you began

- 2 with WWE, do they have sort of a ranking system?
- 3 A. Not really.

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- Q. How about this. Can you describe how you
- 5 rose through the ranks up to the WWE champion?
- 6 A. Wrestling is all based on the reaction of
- 7 the fans; on what's going to make the most money.
- 8 So when you first come into a company, fans have to
- 9 get familiar with your character and with your work
- 10 and build up an emotional attachment to where they
- 11 love you or they hate you. When you get to a
- 12 certain point where they love you so much or they
- 13 hate you so much that you can draw money for the
- 15 hate you so much mat you can draw money for the
- 14 company, then you become a top-level player. When
 15 you become a top-level player, that's when you
- 16 probably will win the championship. Something like
- to probably will will the championship. Something like
- 17 that.
- 18 Q. Okay. Is that the same progression that
- 19 you followed?
- 20 A. Something along those lines, yeah.
- 21 Q. Were you loved or hated?
- 22 A. Hated,
- 23 MR. TAYLOR: Hard to believe.
- 24 Q. How long -- are the wrestling events done
- 25 on a card basis, basically you have undercards and

i A. Um, summer of 2001? I don't even remember

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- what we were doing then.
 MR. TAYLOR: You only need to answer
- 3 MR. TAYLOR: You only need to answer that 4 if you know.
 - A. Well, I don't recall. I really don't.
 - Q. Before you became the champion of the WWE
- 7 in December of 2001, was there a progression of
- 8 matches where you were consistently being ranked
- 9 higher in the cards?
- 10 A. Yes.

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- 11 Q. And was it during that time of your
- 12 ascension through the rankings that you were using
- 13 "Living Legend" to refer to yourself?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. Did you use "Living Legend" to refer to
- 16 yourself before you became champion?
 - A. No, at least I don't recall saying it then.
- MR. TAYLOR: How are you doing? We've been going an hour. We can take breaks.
 - THE WITNESS: I'm all right.
- 21 MR. BRODHEAD: And I apologize for this.
- 22 This is certainly not a test of endurance. If
- 23 you need a break for any reason.
- 24 THE WITNESS: No, I'm fine.
 - MR. TAYLOR: That's all I wanted to make

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- 1 then you have the top card?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Okay. During 2001, let's say the beginning
- 4 of 2001, where were you as far as the cards went?
- 5 A. Beginning of 2001?
- 6 Q. Yes.
- 7 A. I think in the Royal Rumble of 2001 I won
- 8 the intercontinental championship, which was the
- 9 step below the undisputed championship or the
- 10 heavyweight championship, whatever you want to call
- |1 it.
- 12 Q. Do you recall how much you would have been
- 13 paid for that event?
- 14 A. Which one?
- 15 Q. The Royal Rumble in 2001.
- 16 A. I don't recall.
- 17 Q. I mean, do you have any rough idea? Was it
- 18 hundreds, thousands, tens of thousands?
- 19 A. Tens of thousands, between fifty and
- 20 seventy-five -- between thirty and seventy-five
- 21 maybe; although, you probably have the figures. You
- 22 can just check it out yourself.
- 23 Q. Actually I don't think I have those
- 24 figures. During the summer of 2001 where would you
 - 5 have been in the card placement?

- I clear to him. I'm okay, if you are, Chris.
 - THE WITNESS: No. 1 just want to get this over with.
- 4 BY MR. BRODHEAD:
- 5 Q. Whose idea was it to use the name Living
- 6 Legend in reference to you?
 - A. Mine.
- 8 Q. Why did you decide to do that?
- A. Because in the story line I had just
- 10 unified the two world titles from two separate
- 11 companies which had never been done before. So just
- 12 a boastful thing.
- 13 Q. Did anyone ever -- I'm sorry. Did anyone
- 14 at WWE ever tell you not to use the term "Living
- 15 Legend" in reference to yourself?
 - A. I don't recall.
- 17 Q. Now, you stated that you used the name
- 18 "Living Legend" I think you said in January and
- 19 February of '02, possibly in December of '01. Is it
- 20 possible that that name was still being used in
- 21 reference to you as late as June and July of 2002?
- 22 MR. TAYLOR: Object to the form of the
- 23 question. His answer was what he did, and I
- 24 think your question is did someone else use
- 25 it.

46 48 MR. BRODHEAD: That's fine. I'll address photo --1 2 2 that. Absolutely I recognize what it is. 3 Q. Okay. And what is that? MR. TAYLOR: And my observation is you 3 4 A. It's a Pro Wrestling magazine. can answer that if you know. 4 5 A. Yeah, I don't really know. If you're 5 Q. Am I correct that you gave an interview for that Pro Wrestling magazine? looking at a magazine, I guess it's quite possible. 6 6 A. No. MR. BRODHEAD: Let's go ahead and mark 7 7 8 Q. Okay. How was that interview developed as 8 these. 9 A. Keep in mind, too, that publishing dates 9 far as you know? 10 10 A. Pro Wrestling magazines are written by the writers and the editors the same way that a National Q. Right. The publishing date might be 11 1 I Inquirer is written, and everybody in the wrestling 12 later than -business knows that, including Mr. Whistler, I'm 13 A. It might be earlier. 13 14 Q. Right. Okay. 14 assuming. So this is like somebody wrote this as like a creative writing assignment, and that's how 15 MR. BRODHEAD: If we can mark this as 15 wrestling magazines are, and they have always been 16 Irvine 2, please. 16 (Irvine 2 marked for ID purposes.) 17 this way. 17 18 Q. And do you have any input on the content of 18 THE WITNESS: Can I see one of those? 19 MR. BRODHEAD: Yes. She's going to give 19 the articles? 20 20 A. Absolutely not. you one right there. 21 THE WITNESS: The official one. 21 Q. Okay. Do you have any ability to change 22 BY MR. BRODHEAD: 22 the content in the articles? 23 Q. Have you ever seen this story before --23 A. No. 24 Q. And did anybody contact you regarding the 24 use of the term "Living Legend" in reference to you? 25 Q. -- Envision of the Gold? On the sort of 47 49 middle right there's a picture of an individual with I A. No. 2 two belts over -- one belt over each shoulder. Is 2 Q. So this would have been somebody that -well, I'm sorry. Does the WWE have any input into that you? 3 these wrestling magazines as far as you know? 4 A. Yes. 5 A. No. These ones here are by London 5 Q. And to the next of it it says "The Publishing, I believe, and these are not WWE self-proclaimed Living Legend." 6 6 magazines. This one, yes. 7 A. Uh-huh (indicating affirmatively). 7

8 Q. Did you ever proclaim yourself as a Living 9 Legend? 10 A. Yeah. We discussed it. I did, 11 self-proclaimed. 12 Q. Did you have any input in this article or 13 in this publication? 14 A. No. 15 MR. BRODHEAD: Let's mark this as Irvine 3, 16 please. 17 (Irvine 3 marked for ID purposes.) 18 MR. BRODHEAD: Let the record reflect the 19 deponent is being shown what's been marked as 20 Irvine 3.

Q. Do you recognize what this document

Q. Do you recognize what it is? It's a

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reflects?

BY MR. BRODHEAD:

A. What it reflects?

Q. Okay. So what you're stating is, regardless of your input in anything you might have said, they chose to use the term "Living Legend" in reference to you on their own? A. Yes. And this interview is just made up. 12 Q. Okay. 14 MR. TAYLOR: In other words, you never gave 15 such an interview? 16 THE WITNESS: No, no. I never gave this interview, no. BY MR. BRODHEAD: Q. And you had nothing to do with authorizing the publication of the interview? A. No. 22 MR. TAYLOR: Well, I object to calling it an interview. MR. BRODHEAD: Well, I'm sorry. With the 24 story. And I'm not -- I'm not trying to

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50 52 A. I don't understand the question. contend that it is, in fact, an interview. 1 MR. TAYLOR: Well, I don't know. It took 2 Q. Why did you use the phrase "Living Legend"? 2 A. As a boast, but the fans would obviously 3 me a while to learn this, that they just make 3 know it wasn't true. this stuff up. I thought it was just my 4 Q. That boast was designed to get a fan 5 clients denying that they'd given interviews. 6 reaction; is that correct? It took me a while to figure out they just 6 7 A. Yes. 7 make it up from start to finish. 8 Q. And being that you were one of the ones who 8 MR. BRODHEAD: Actually why don't we take 9 a break for just a minute if that's okay with was disliked, did you expect that that would raise 10 10 anger in the fans for you to use that phrase? y'all. A. Yes. 11 11 MR. TAYLOR: Okay. Are we getting close? 12 O. Did it, in fact, do that? 12 MR. BRODHEAD: I wish. I think I've 13 got -- it's going to be a little bit longer. 13 A. I think so. Not majorly, though. It 14 I don't know how quick it's going to go. wasn't a major part of my act. MR. TAYLOR: Let's take a break. 15 15 Q. You do have fans in Georgia, though, is that correct? THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the video 16 16 17 A. Um, I think so. 17 record. 18 MR. TAYLOR: At least one. 18 (A short break was taken.) 19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're on the video 19 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I've got one there. 20 MR. TAYLOR: I'm talking about me. 20 record 21 THE WITNESS: That you know of, one. 21 BY MR. BRODHEAD: 22 Q. Just one thing I didn't cover. Do you 22 MR. TAYLOR: My children, I think. have any idea why Jakks Pacific in manufacturing 23 THE WITNESS: A couple. 23 24 MR. TAYLOR: I can get you up to four. this game would have used Living Legend in relation 24 BY MR. BRODHEAD: to you -- your picture? 51 53 Q. Are there any websites that are used to 1 2 Q. Okay. And some of these are just sort of 2 promote you? 3 A. Yes. cleaning up questions here. I apologize if I'm Q. What websites? covering old ground. But you used the name 4 5 A. The WWE website. I have a website. 5 Chris Jericho to promote yourself; is that correct? Q. What is your website? 6 6 7 A. Chris Jericho dot com. 7 Q. And you've used the trademark Chris Jericho Q. And do you own that website? 8 8 to promote yourself in Georgia? 9 A. Um, yes. 9 A. Yes. Q. And I think we've discussed this, but do 10 Q. Is there anyone else who has ownership in 10 that website besides you? you have any control over any TV contracts? 11 11 A. No, I don't believe so. 12 A. No. 12 13 Q. Is there any corporation associated with Q. Any Pay Per View contracts? 13 14 that website? 14 A. No. 15 A. I don't recall. I don't run it; so I don't 15 Q. Any distribution of items that are sold with the trademark "Chris Jericho" on them? know for sure. 16 16 Q. Who does run it? 17 17 A. My friend. 18 18 Q. Do you have any control over magazine O. And who is that? 19 19 distribution in Georgia? 20 A. Lee Wren. 20 A. No. 21 Q. Can you spell both of those? 21 Q. Have you ever participated in negotiations A. L-e-e, W-r-e-n. 22 22 regarding broadcast agreements in Georgia? 23 O. Is that a male or a female? 23 A. No. 24 24 Q. Did you use the phrase "Living Legend" in

order to try to promote yourself?

25

Q. And where does Lee Wren live, do you know?

54 56 ì A. Winnipeg. I A. He lives in Tampa. Q. Did you work with Mr. Aborn in setting up 2 Q. Did Mr. Wren initially set up the website 2 3 the Fozzy website? 3 for you? A. We set it up together. 4 A. Um, yeah -- yes, yes, a little bit. 4 5 5 Q. Did you set it up in Winnipeg? Q. And what's the web address for Fozzy? A. No. 6 6 A. Fozzyrock dot com. 7 Q. Where did you set it up? 7 Q. Just F-o-z-z-y-r-o-c-k --A. Well, he was in Winnipeg. I was in 8 8 A. Yes. 9 9 Orlando. Q. -- no space, dot com? 10 Q. And when was the website set up? 10 A. That's correct. 11 A. December of '97, I believe. 11 Q. Do you have control over the content of the 12 Q. Is it correct that that website has had 12 Chris Jericho dot com website? 13 more than three million hits since it was developed? 13 A. Yes. 14 A. I believe so. I don't know the exact 14 Q. Do you have control over the content of figure, something like that. Fozzyrock dot com? 15 15 A. Yes. Q. Do you have a web counter on the website? 16 16 A. Yes. 17 17 Q. And I think we've discussed that you're 18 Q. Okay. And that web counter counts the 18 familiar with the content of the website Chris 19 number of hits; is that correct? Jericho dot com? 19 20 A. Absolutely. 20 A. Most of it, yes. 21 MR. BRODHEAD: I will just introduce this. 21 Q. Okay. 22 22 A. Not all of it, but most of it, Let's mark that as -- we're up to No. 4. Q. Am I correct that products are sold on the 23 (Irvine 4 marked for ID purposes.) 23 24 MR. BRODHEAD: Okay. Let the record 24 website, Chris Jericho dot com? 25 reflect the deponent has been shown what has 25 A. I think it's just a link to Shop Zone, 57 which is the WWE website. 1 been marked as Irvine 4. 1 2 Q. That's what the Y2J Store would be? 2 BY MR. BRODHEAD: 3 A. Yes. You just click on that; it will link 3 Q. Do you recognize what that would be? you to the WWE home page, I believe. 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Is that a screen shot of your website? 5 Q. There also appears to have a link on the bottom middle there that says "Get the new Fozzy A. Uh-huh, home page. 6 6 7 album Happenstance." 7 Q. And in the bottom left-hand side it says 8 A. Uh-huh (indicating affirmatively). 8 that there have been 3,477,575 hits since December 4 9 Q. Can that be purchased from - is that 9 of '97. linked to the Fozzy website or where does that go? 10 A. Right. 10 Q. Does that seem like an accurate number as A. I'm not sure, either the Fozzy website or 11 11 maybe Amazon or something like that maybe. 12 12 far as your aware? A. I would say so if the counter says it. 13 Q. Do you get a royalty on products that are 13 14 sold from WWE that are related to you? 14 Computers don't lie, right? 15 Q. Do you have any ownership in any websites 15 Q. Is that a percentage of each product or is other than Chris Jericho dot com? 16 16

Q. How do you spell his last name?

A. We have a website for Fozzy, but I don't

Q. Okay. Who manages the website for Fozzy?

Q. Is it owned by Fozzy, LLC?

A. I don't know for sure.

A. A guy called Ed Aborn.

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own it.

A. That's correct.

correct?

does that work?

A. I think it's 5 percent.

each product different or percentage of sales? How

A. I believe it's a percentage of per sale.

Q. Do you know what that percentage is?

Q. And at this point you're not getting any

percentage from the sales of Happenstance; is that

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	58		60
i	Q. But if at some point sales were great	1	A. No, I don't know.
2	enough you would get a percentage of the sales from	2	MR. BRODHEAD: That's all I have.
3	Happenstance?	3	MR. TAYLOR: No questions for the
4	A. Yes.	4	defendants.
5	Q. Does the website help promote your name as	5	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the video
6	well? Does Chris Jericho dot com help promote your	6	record.
7	пате?	7	THE REPORTER: Do you want to ask him
8	A. I guess, yes.	8	about reading and waiving?
9	Q. And is the promotion of your name is	9	MR. TAYLOR: We'd like for Mr. Jericho to
10	that a benefit to you?	10	sign, but we would be willing to stipulate
11	A. Yes.	111	that he do so in any in front of any notary
12	Q. Is it correct that the website Chris	12	public. Well, send it to me, and I'll handle
13	Jericho dot com is accessible in Georgia?	13	signature.
14	A. Yes.	14	THE REPORTER: You're taking the
15	Q. And is it your understanding that by	15	original?
16	pressing the link Y2J Store, Georgia residents can	16	MR. MYERS: Yes
17	be led to a location where they can purchase items?	17	MR. TAYLOR: I'd like a copy and a copy
18	A. Yeah, I think so.	18	of the video.
19	Q. And if they purchase your items, then you	19	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The original and copy
20	would receive a financial benefit from those	20	of the video?
20	purchases, correct?	21	MR. MYERS: Correct.
22	A. Yes.	22	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
		23	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Do you want a copy of the video as well?
23	Q. Is it also correct that at least at one	24	
24 25	point you used the term "Living Legend" to refer to	25	MR. TAYLOR: I might as well.
دد	yourself on the website Chris Jericho dot com?	23	
	59		61
ı	A. I don't recall.	1	61 STIPULATIONS
1 2		1 2	
1	A. I don't recall.		
2	A. I don't recall. Q. Have you ever instructed anyone or I'm	2	STIPULATIONS
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2 3 4	A. I don't recall. Q. Have you ever instructed anyone or I'm sorry. Have you ever have you ever instructed the person who is helping on your website,	2 3 4	STIPULATIONS THEREUPON, the deposition of CHRIS IRVINE was concluded at 12:41 p.m.
2 3 4 5	A. I don't recall. Q. Have you ever instructed anyone or I'm sorry. Have you ever have you ever instructed the person who is helping on your website, Mr. Wren, to remove particular conduct content	2 3 4 5	STIPULATIONS THEREUPON, the deposition of CHRIS IRVINE was concluded at 12:41 p.m. NOTE: The original and one copy of the
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	62	64
l	DEPONENT'S ERRATA SHEET	1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER OATH
2	AND SIGNATURE INSTRUCTIONS	2
3		3 STATE OF FLORIDA
4	The Original of the Erraia Sheet has been	4 COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH
5	delivered to John L. Taylor, Jr., Esquire.	5
6	When the Errata Sheet has been completed by the	6
7	deponent and signed, a copy thereof should be	7 I, the undersigned authority, hereby
8	delivered to each party of record and the ORIGINAL	8 certify that the witness named herein
9	delivered to Ben C. Brodhead, Esquire, to whom the	9 personally appeared before me and was duly
10	original deposition transcript was delivered.	10 swom.
11		11 WITNESS my hand and official seal this
12	INSTRUCTIONS TO DEPONENT	12
13		13
[4	After reading this volume of your deposition,	14
15	indicate any corrections or changes to your	15
16	testimony and the reasons therefor on the Errata	16
17	Sheet supplied to you and sign it. DO NOT make	17
18	marks or notations on the transcript volume itself.	18
19		19
20		
21	REPLACE THIS PAGE OF THE TRANSCRIPT WITH THE	21 PATTY STARKS, RPR
22	COMPLETED AND SIGNED ERRATA SHEET WHEN RECEIVED.	22 Notary Public-State of Florida
23		23 My Commission No. CC859522
24		24 Expires September 19, 2003
25		25
1		
1		
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ī	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER OATH
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5	STATE OF FLORIDA
6	COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH
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8	I, the undersigned authority, hereby certify
9	that the witness named herein personally appeared
10	before me and was duly sworn.
11	WITNESS my hand and official seal this
12	FEB - 5 2003
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15	Par Starks
16	PATTY STARKS, RPR PATTY STARKS, RPR Notary Public - State of Florida
17	Commission No. CC 859522
18	Atlantic Sonding Co., Inc. Expires September 19, 2003
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EXHIBIT

TRVING 3



CHRIS JERICHO

"LEGEND ISN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO DESCRIBE ME!"

N THE SUMMER of 1999. Chris Jericho became the talk of the wrestling industry. Through exciting feuds with Dean Malenko, Rev. Misterio Jr., and Perry Saturn, Jericho had amassed a strong fan base, but WCW management was reluctant to elevate Jericho to the next level. When his WCW contract expired. Jericho vanished from the scene. By the time he finally signed with the WWF, his fan base had grown exponentially-as had expectations. Jericho was heralded as "the next Shawn Michaels" by some people. Anything less than a WWF championship reign would be a failure.

Jericho seemed to be on track when he debuted as Y2J and got into a battle of promos with The Rock. But soon after that much-hyped appearance, Jericho slipped into a mid-card malaise. He feuded with Chyna of all people for the Intercontinental title. He became a fan favorite, but could only stay on the fringe of World title contention. Despite winning four I-C titles and remaining one of the Federation's most popular competitors, it was a struggle for him to live up to the hype.

There were moments when Y2J seemed ready to break through. He appeared to upset Triple-H for the WWF title on Raw two years ago, only to have the decision reversed. At King of the Ring 2001, he and Chris Benoit essentially had a two-on-one match against Austin for the title, yet Jericho again came away emptyhanded.

When Jericho upset The Rock for the WCW title at No Mercy, Jerichoholics insisted Y2J had finally climbed into the WWF's top tier. Then Rock quickly regained the belt, and many observers feared Jericho would have a difficult time winning another world championship.

Yet Jericho never lost faith. At Vengeance, he scored falls over both The Rock and Austin to become the first undisputed world champion in four decades. Since winning the unified title, Jericho has gotten more and more arrogant, but he keeps finding ways to retain the gold. And he still doesn't feel he's getting the respect he deserves. Senior Writer Dan Murphy caught up with Y2J following a recent Smackdown.

"I'm twice the man Ric Flair ever was. It's tearing that man all up inside. Despite all his accomplishments, he has to take a backseat to me, because I unified the titles and he never could. He never made history the way I did."

- Q: Chris, since this is the first time I've had the opportunity to sit down with you since Vengeance, let me say congratulations on winning both the WWF and WCW World titles and unitying them. It's an accomplishment I never thought I'd see during my lifetime.
- A: Thank you, Dan. I have to say, it was always my dream to be the man who would do the

impossible and become the one, true undisputed champion in wrestling. With this (he pats the WCW title belt) and this (he pats the WWF title) in my possession, I can now legitimately say I am the greatest wrestler to ever step into the ring. It's really pretty incredible.

- Q: Well, I'll admit you made history by unifying the titles, but I don't know if I'd make the jump that makes you the greatest wrestler of alltime.
- A: What else do I have to do to prove it? Seriously. I've beaten The Rock. I've lost track of how many times I've beaten The Rock already. It's become routine for me. I've even defended these belts against Triple-H, and I'm still your undisputed champion. Your undisputed, undefeated, unified champion of the world.
- Q: You could probably make a stronger case for yourself if you had won your two matches at Vengeance without interference from Booker T and Vince Mc-Mahon, and without using the title belts as weapons.
- A: You listen to me, Murph. Four men in the history of this great sport—this sport of kings—had a chance to become the one undisputed champion. The other three would become a mere footnote in wrestling history. I guarantee you that any man

INSIDE WRESTLING



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"I came out on top in two of the most grueling matches ever, against two of the biggest stars in this business-next to me, of course. And I wrestled those two matches without a second to rest in between. That makes me the greatest, the true 'Living Legend."

in my place would have done exactly what I did. Did you think Austin, Rock, or Angle were going to risk losing their chance at the greatest glory in this industry by not taking advantage of every opportunity available? Vengeance was an absolute war, with the ultimate prize in this business at stake. I came out on top in two of the most grueling matches ever, against two of the biggest stars in this business-next to me, of course. And I wrestled those two matches without a second to rest in between. That makes me the greatest, the true "Living Legend."

- Q: What do you think Bruno Sammartino would say about that?
- A: The moment he'd started babbling, I'd just hold up this belt (indicating the WCW title) and ask, quite simply, "Ever win

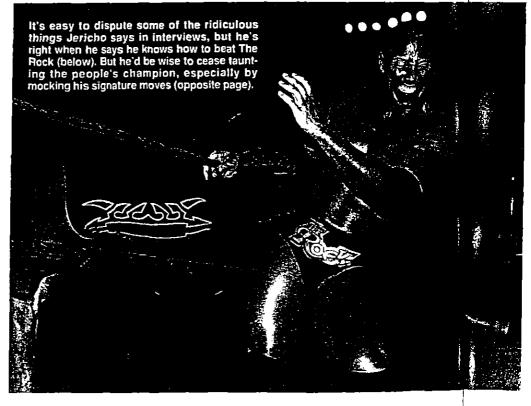
this one, junior? No? Then why don't you just shul the hell up!"

- Q: In recent weeks, you have formed an alliance with Lance Storm and Christian. Some people have compared this little group to The Four Horsemen. For lack of a better term, is this so-called "Canadian alliance" a marriage of convenience, or is this a stable like the Horsemen?
- A: First of all, I don't want to have anything to do with The Four Horsemen. For God's sake, Murph, this is 2002, not 1986. Get a damn calendar, why don't you! And second of all, I'm twice the man Ric Flair ever was. It's tearing that man all up inside. Despite all his accomplishments, he has to take a backseat to me, because I unified the titles and he never could. He never made history the way I did.
- Q: But in Flair's defense, he never had much of a chance. The WWF and WCW—or NWA—were separate entities until last year. The only reason you got the opportunity is because the WWF purchased WCW. In fact,

the WCW belt doesn't even mean a whole lot anymore, other than being a symbol. **CW as an organization doesn't exist. You were part of the team that destroyed it in the main event of Survivor Series.

A: Except for the fact that the best wrestlers in the world are here in the WWF, not split among two companies, and I'm the guy who has what all of the best wrestlers in the history of the world have always wanted—hence I am the best. But as I was saying about Lance and Christian, I wouldn't say we're a stable, or a family, or any other stupid term you want to use to describe a clique of pansies not man enough to stand up for themselves. We're three men who aren't getting the respect we deserve. Lance had to work as a janitor to get his job back, and he's one of the top wrestlers in this business. How degrading is that? And Christian is always fighting his way out of his buck-toothed brother's shadow. We're sticking together to make sure

Q: Wi sci A: Ev the lio



Case 1:02-cy-01008-CC Document 19 Filed 02/13/03 Page 95 of 131



Because he's so full of himself, Jericho has made a lot of dangerous enemies in just the last few months. Don't think for a smood that Steve Austin in torgotten the loss Jericho put on his record at Vengeance.

there, and they're buying my T-shirts and posters. But the WWF marketing department has its pets-Triple-H, Austin, and The Rock, just to name three. You know, all those guys who get fancy music videos of them made. Lance, Christian, and I have had to fight damn hard for everything we have, and we're not going to go

down without a fight.

Q: Why is it that you feel you're not getting the respect you deserve?

A: There are a few reasons. I'm a victim of my own success. I've established a new measure-

ment of greatness in this business. If I was to lose the undisputed title tomorrow and never regain it, I would still be the man who made history and unified those titles. My name is a part of wrestling history forever. No one will ever be able to erase my name as the most influential-and successful-competitor in history. Take Lou Thesz, Bruno, Flair, Hulk Hogan, Bret Hart, Harley Race—take all those legends and bump them



"If I was to lose the undisputed title tomorrow and never regain it, I would still be the man who made history and unified those titles. My name is a part of wrestling history forever. No one will ever be able to erase my name as the most influential—and successful—competitor in history."

none of us gets screwed over.

Q: Who do you think is trying to

screw you over?

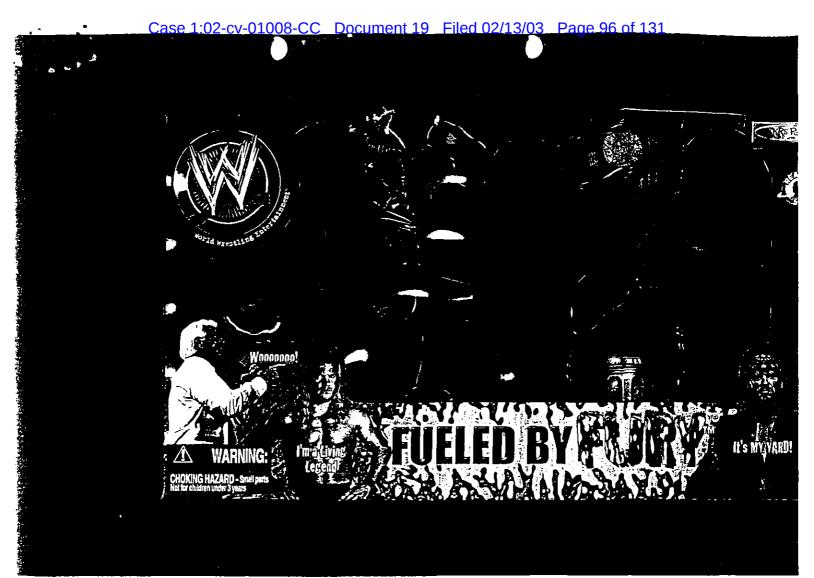
A: Everyone, dammit! Believe me.

A: Everyone, dammit! Believe me, there are millions—and millions—of Jerichoholics out

all down a step on the ladder. As the greatest of all-time, I know people are jealous of me. They want to see me fail. They want to see their manufactured heroes like Rock or Austin knock me down a peg. Well, guess what. It's not going to happen, because Chris Jericho is not a joke. Chris Jericho is an icon and the "Living Legend" in this business. In fact, legend isn't strong enough to describe me!

Q: Final question: Will you still be the unified champion at Wrestle-Mania and perhaps beyond?

A: Anyone who thinks I won't be is an idiot. Y2J isn't a fluke champion. He's not a joke. He's the champion of a new generation. I will be standard-bearer for this industry for years to come, and that's all there is to it. Respect me or else!



EXHIBIT

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WORLD WRESTULDING

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Notes, Quotes & Anecdotes

Evolution of the Gold

In honor of the creation of the brand-new undisputed World Wrestling Championship belt, here's a look at how the Heavyweight title belt has developed over the years...



Hulk Hogan,

This version was

his historic first

1987

reign.

Bob Backlund,

This version was created after Superstar Billy Graham destroyed Backlund's previous belt the year before.



Stone Cold Steve Austin, 1998

The Rattlesnake had the "Smoking Skulls" belt made specially for himself.



The Rock, 2000

The most recent version prior to the unification.



Yokozuna, 1993

This version wal created for the WrestleMonia IV tournament and lasted 10 years, longer than any other.



Chris Jericho,

The self-proclaimed "living legend" was the first to unify the World Wrestling Federation and WCW World titles. The WCW belt dates back to 1985.



Triple H, 2002

"The Game" was the first recipient of the handsome Undisputed World Championship belt.





IERICHO



www.chrisjericho.com

INFORMATION Commentary

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3477575

Welcome to CHRIS JERICHO'S OFFICIAL WEB PAGE. This page is designed for Jericho fans (or anti-fans) as a soapbox for both yours and my opinions. Feel free to comment on this page, my pro wrestling career, music, hockey or anything else you care to get off your chest; I guarantee I'll read all of the mail I receive.

You can use this site to journey through the slums and mansions of my 12 year career, learn a lot of useless Jericho info (why not, it's my page darn it), travel through my personal photo album (don't worry, there's no boring crap like family pictures and bathing babies), and learn about my favorite matches (did I forget any, you smart marks?). Join me as I rest on my laurels and brag about my previous championiship conquests, and even get updated opinions on my recent matches and the general state of the world today from your party host...ME!!!

So sit back in your padded chairs, grab your potato chips, chocolates, licorice, donuts and diet pepsi, adjust your coke bottle lenses and fet's mark out together! C'mon BABY ... ARE YOU READY?

Y2J Jem - June, 2002- Y2J realizes that cynical internet fans don't know what's good and what's bad anymore. He realizes that if they stopped being so uptight and just allowed themselves to be entertained, that they would enjoy both the WWE and their pathetic little lives a whole lot more.

FLASH MOVIE by Sonyman

FLASH GAME by Daniel Echeverri



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AFFIDAVIT OF MELISSA MANSO

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

) ss. Stan for d

BEFORE ME, a Notary Public, personally appeared Melissa Manso, who, being duly sworn, deposes and states as follows:

- 1. I am over eighteen (18) years of age and I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein.
- 2. I am a Senior Associate Producer of World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc. ("WWE"). I produced the video package broadcast during the 2002 ROYAL RUMBLE immediately before the match between CHRIS JERICHO and THE ROCK (the "JERICHO/ROCK Package").
- 3. The JERICHO/ROCK Package was pre-produced at WWE's television production studio in Stamford, Connecticut.
- 4. In producing the JERICHO/ROCK Package, I began by reviewing WWE's records of prior performances of CHRIS JERICHO and THE ROCK for particular audio bytes to tell the desired story for JERICHO/ROCK Package to set the stage for their match at the 2002 ROYAL RUMBLE. The specific audio byte in the JERICHO/ROCK Package referencing the words "living legend" was taken from WWE's RAW television program broadcast from Madison Square Garden in New York City on January 7, 2002.

- 5. After selecting and digitally recording the various audio bytes, I selected and digitally recorded music to overlay the audio bytes throughout the JERICHO/ROCK Package. Finally, I selected and digitally recorded video clips of prior WWE programs to match the music of the package.
- 6. I then took the JERICHO/ROCK Package to the "edit suite" located in the WWE television production studio in Stamford, Connecticut in which I edited and enhanced the package, including, among other things, the addition of video and sound effects.
- 7. Once completed, the JERICHO/ROCK Package was digitally recorded on a "clip reel," which is a single digital beta tape containing all the packages and other preproduced segments to be used for the production of the 2002 ROYAL RUMBLE.
- 8. Immediately before the match between CHRIS JERICHO and THE ROCK, the JERICHO/ROCK Package was broadcast from the "clip reel" by satellite for transmission to various pay-per-view providers and by direct link onto the "jumbotron" video monitor in the arena.
- 9. The creation and production of the JERICHO/ROCK Package took place entirely in WWE's television production studio in Stamford, Connecticut. No part of the creation or production of the package took place in the State of Georgia.
- 10. Vince McMahon did not direct me to create the JERICHO/ROCK Package. Mr. McMahon had no input or involvement in the creation and production of the JERICHO/ROCK Package. Chris Irvine had no input or involvement in the creation and production of the JERICHO/ROCK Package.

Molissa Manso Maude

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \(\frac{\mu^{\lambda}}{\tau} \) day of February 2003.

Notary Public

SUSAN L. DEROSA NOTARY PUBLIC My Commission Expires May 31, 2006

ORIGINAL

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

LARRY WHISTLER a/k/a LARRY ZBYSZKO a/k/a THE LIVING LEGEND, an individual,

Plaintiff,

VS.

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an individual,

Defendants.

EUTHER Deputy Clark

Civil Action No. 1 02-CV-1008

MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS BY DEFENDANTS VINCE MCMAHON AND CHRIS IRVINE

Pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 12(b)(2) and this Court's Orders of November 25, 2002 and December 31, 2002, Defendants Vince McMahon and Chris Irvine, by and through their undersigned counsel, respectfully submit this memorandum of law in support of their renewed motion to dismiss.

I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

After two months of jurisdictional discovery, Plaintiff Larry Whistler ("Whistler") has failed to adduce evidence to support this Court's exercise of personal jurisdiction over Defendants Mr. McMahon and Mr. Irvine individually. Rather, the evidence in the

record, to the extent it supports contacts with Georgia in any respect, goes to contacts of WWE with Georgia—for which jurisdiction is not contested—as opposed to contacts of Messrs. McMahon and Jericho individually. The assertion of claims against Messrs. McMahon and Jericho personally, in addition to WWE, thus appears principally designed to harass and inconvenience those well-known individuals in a foreign jurisdiction. Indeed, the jurisdictional evidence fundamentally confirms Defendants' characterization of this action in its original motion to dismiss—this case is being driven by Plaintiff's historical personal animus against Mr. McMahon.

Fatally lacking on the current record is any evidence that Mr. McMahon or Mr.

Irvine personally committed any purposeful acts in the State of Georgia from which

Plaintiff's cause of action resulted. Because of the critical lack of such evidence

necessary for the assertion of personal jurisdiction over non-resident defendants, Messrs.

McMahon and Irvine renew their motion to dismiss Plaintiff's complaint in its entirety

for lack of personal jurisdiction.

II. FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

The following facts are alleged in the Complaint. Although WWE disputes many of these allegations, for purposes of this Motion only, the well-pled factual allegations of the Complaint are assumed to be true as required under Fed.R.Civ.P. 12(b)(2).

As pertinent to this Motion, Whistler claims to be known as a professional wrestler under the name Larry Zbyszko. Since in or around 1980, Whistler claims also to have

engaged in wrestling entertainment services using the moniker the Living Legend.

Complaint at ¶ 9. Whistler claims that as a result of his allegedly long-term and continuous use of that moniker, the public has come to recognize the services bearing the Living Legend mark as services of Whistler's. Complaint at ¶¶ 12-13.

Whistler claims that the Defendants adopted the same Living Legend moniker in connection with the wrestling services of WWE's CHRIS JERICHO character.

Complaint at ¶ 15. Whistler further claims that as a result of Defendants' promotion of wrestling services under the Living Legend moniker, there is a strong likelihood of, and there actually has been, confusion in the marketplace between Defendants' use of the Living Legend moniker and Whistler's use. Complaint at ¶¶ 18-19. As a result of this alleged confusion, Whistler claims he has been irreparably harmed. Complaint at ¶ 26. Originally, Whistler had asserted claims against each Defendant for trademark infringement and unfair competition under Sections 32 and 43(a) of the Lanham Act, trademark dilution under Section 43(c) of the Lanham Act and O.C.G.A. § 10-1-451(b), unfair competition under O.C.G.A. § 23-2-55 and the common law, and deceptive trade practices under O.C.G.A. § 10-1-370 et seq. Complaint at ¶¶ 27-59.

In response to Whistler's complaint, Defendants WWE, McMahon and Irvine collectively moved to dismiss Count I of the Complaint under Fed.R.Civ.P. 12(b)(6) as it failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted. Defendants also moved to dismiss the Complaint in its entirety as against Mr. McMahon and Mr. Irvine for lack of

personal jurisdiction under Fed.R.Civ.P. 12(b)(2). On November 25, 2002, this Court entered an order dismissing Count I of the Complaint against all Defendants and granting a two-month discovery period specifically on the jurisdictional issue upon which Defendants McMahon and Irvine were invited to renew their motion to dismiss. After engaging in written and deposition discovery, Defendants McMahon and Irvine have renewed their motion to dismiss the Complaint in its entirety because they are not properly subject to personal jurisdiction in Georgia.

III. LAW AND ARGUMENT

A. Legal Standard for Motion to Dismiss

To survive a motion to dismiss under Federal Rule Civil Procedure 12(b)(2) for lack of personal jurisdiction, the plaintiff bears the burden of establishing a *prima facie* case of jurisdiction over the nonresident defendant. See Peridyne Technology Solutions, LLC v. Matheson Fast Freight, Inc., 117 F. Supp.2d 1366, 1369 (N.D. Ga. 2000), citing Francosteel Corp. v. M/V Charm, 19 F.3d 624, 626 (11th Cir. 1994); Robinson v. Giamarco & Bill P.C., 74 F.3d 253, 255 (11th Cir. 1996); Madara v. Hall, 916 F.2d 1510, 1514 (11th Cir.1990), citing, Morris v. SSE, Inc., 843 F.2d 489, 492 (11th Cir.1988). To establish a *prima facie* case of personal jurisdiction, the plaintiff must present sufficient evidence to defeat a motion for a directed verdict. See Robinson, 74 F.3d at 255; Madara, 916 F.2d at 1514. Mere "conclusory allegations and unwarranted deductions of fact are not admitted as true." South Florida Water Mgmt District v. Montalvo, 84 F.3d

402, 409, n. 10 (11th Cir. 1996); see also Oxford Asset Mgmt, Ltd. v. Jaharis, 297 F.3d 1182, 1188 (11th Cir. 2002). As the record now developed through specific jurisdictional discovery fails to support this Court's exercise of personal jurisdiction over Messrs. McMahon and Irvine, Plaintiff fails to carry its burden of proof and the Complaint in its entirety should be dismissed pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 12(b)(2) against them.

B. Georgia's Personal Jurisdiction Standard

In a diversity action, a federal court has personal jurisdiction over a non-resident defendant to the extent permitted by the forum state's long-arm statute and the due process clause of the United States Constitution. See Nippon Credit Bank, Ltd. v. Matthews, 291 F.3d 738, 746 (11th Cir. 2002); Sculptchair, Inc. v. Century Arts Ltd., 94 F.3d 623, 626 (11th Cir. 1996); Allegiant Physicians Services, Inc. v. Sturdy Memorial Hosp., 926 F.Supp. 1106, 1112 (N.D.Ga. 1996). The pertinent sections of Georgia's long-arm statute § 9-10-91 are interpreted to the maximum limits of due process. See Francosteel Corp. v. M/V Charm, 19 F.3d 624 (11th Cir. 1994); Delong Equipment Co. v. Washington Mills Abrasive Co., 840 F.2d 843, 849 (11th Cir. 1988); SES Indus., Inc. v. Intertrade Packaging Mach. Corp., 512 S.E.2d 316, 318 (Ga.Ct.App. 1999). "Where a state's long-arm statute confers personal jurisdiction to the limits of Due Process, the court may pass over analysis of the statute and exercise jurisdiction where the constitutional requirements are satisfied." Peridyne Technology, 117 F.Supp.2d 1366, 1370 (N.D. Ga. 2000); Horsley v. Feldt, 128 F.Supp.2d 1374, 1377 (N.D. Ga. 2000).

The Due Process analysis contemplates the application of two types of jurisdiction, general and specific. Peridyne, 117 F.Supp.2d at 1370. "General personal jurisdiction arises from a party's contacts with the forum state that are unrelated to the litigation."

Delong, 840 F.2d at 853. A party is subject to general jurisdiction only when it has continuous and systematic general business contacts with the forum state. Delong, 840 F.2d at 853; Peridyne, 117 F.Supp.2d at 1370. Under general jurisdiction, a party may be haled into court in the forum state on any claim. Peridyne, 117 F.Supp.2d at 1370.

"Specific personal jurisdiction is founded on a party's contacts to the forum state that are related to the cause of action." <u>Delong</u>, 840 F.2d at 853. Specific personal jurisdiction is determined by application of the two-part <u>International Shoe</u> due process analysis: (1) whether the defendant has purposely established minimum contacts with the forum state, and (2) whether the exercise of jurisdiction will not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice. <u>Delong</u>, 840 F.2d at 853; <u>Peridyne</u>, 117 F.Supp.2d at 1370. The central concern of the inquiry is the relationship between the defendant, the forum and the litigation. <u>Delong</u>, 840 F.2d at 853, <u>quoting Shaffer v. Heitner</u>, 433 U.S. 186, 204, 97 S.Ct. 2569, 2579 (1977).

To establish minimum contacts, this Court has ruled that a plaintiff <u>must</u> demonstrate the following three factors: (1) plaintiff's cause of action arises out of or relates to the defendant's contacts with the forum state; (2) the contacts must show that the defendant purposefully conducted activities within the forum state and invoked the

benefits and protections of the state; (3) the defendant's contacts demonstrate that the defendant should reasonably anticipate being haled into court in the forum. Peridyne at 1370; see also Maxwell Chase Technologies, L.L.C., 79 F.Supp.2d 1364, 1368 (N.D. Ga. 1999) (emphasis added). Without proof of all three elements, jurisdiction fails.

Maxwell, 79 F.Supp.2d at 1368 ("In order to fulfill the minimum contacts requirement, a plaintiff must demonstrate the presence of three factors."); Railcar, Ltd. v. Southern

Illinois Railcar Co., 42 F.Supp.2d 1369 (N.D. Ga. 1999). The touchstone for the exercise of specific personal jurisdiction, therefore, is whether the defendant committed a purposeful act in Georgia from which plaintiff's cause of action resulted.

As set forth in his Complaint and discovery responses, Plaintiff has asserted various purported contacts with Georgia specifically relating to the claims in this action that allegedly subject Messrs. McMahon and Irvine to this Court's personal jurisdiction. Accordingly, Plaintiff apparently is claiming that Messrs. McMahon and Irvine are subject to this Court's specific personal jurisdiction.

C. Mr. McMahon Is Not Properly Subject To Specific Personal Jurisdiction In This Court

¹ Some courts have analyzed the personal jurisdiction issue under the three factors articulated by the Court of Appeals of Georgia in <u>Shellenberger v. Tanner</u>, 227 S.E.2d 266 (Ga.App.Ct. 1976). See <u>Delong</u>, 840 F.2d at 849. The <u>Shellenberger</u> test substantially mirrors the three-factor due process test outlined above, requiring evidence that the nonresident (1) purposefully did some act or consummated some transaction with or in the forum resulting in injury; (2) the plaintiff's cause of action must arise out of or result from defendant's purposeful activity and (3) the exercise of jurisdiction must be reasonable.

1. Personal Jurisdiction Only Attaches To An Officer Of A Corporation Based On Evidence The Officer Purposefully Committed An Act In The Forum For Which He Can Be Held Substantively Liable

"In general, the activities of an officer do not confer jurisdiction over the officer individually." Chemtall Inc. v. Citi-Chem, Inc., 992 F.Supp. 1390, 1402 (S.D.Ga. 1998), quoting Brady v. Burtt, 979 F.Supp. 524, 529 (W.D.Mich. 1997). See also Delong, 840 F.2d at 851, citing Agra Chemical Distributing Co. v. Marion Laboratories, Inc., 523 F.Supp. 699, 702-03 (W.D.N.Y. 1981) ("An individual's presence [in the forum] in his or her capacity as a corporate officer is not a proper basis of jurisdiction or venue against the individual personally."). An individual officer/director can only be held liable for tortious acts of a corporation if that person personally participated in the tortious activities or specifically directed them to be done. Chemtall, 992 F.Supp. at 1401.

Under those limited circumstances, specific jurisdiction over an individual officer or director must be established separately and independently from the officer or director's corporation. Foxworthy v. Custom Tees, Inc., 879 F.Supp. 1200, 1206 (N.D. Ga. 1996). Specifically, an officer or director is subject to jurisdiction only if that person "commits an act in the forum for which he can be held substantively liable." Delong, 840 F.2d at 851-52 (emphasis added). In other words, "what is needed is a purposeful act [toward the commission of the tort] with or in Georgia." Foxworthy, 879 F.Supp. at 1206. Significantly, the Eleventh Circuit squarely has ruled that "if the claim against the corporate agent rests on nothing more than that he is an officer or employee of the

nonresident corporation and if any connection he had with the commission of the tort occurred without the forum state" then jurisdiction does not attach. <u>Delong</u>, 840 F.2d at 852, <u>quoting Columbia Briargate Co. v. First National Bank</u>, 713 F.2d 1052, 1064-65 (4th Cir. 1983).

2. Mr. McMahon Is Not Subject To This Court's Specific Personal Jurisdiction Because Plaintiff's Cause Of Action Does Not Arise Or Result From Mr. McMahon's Specific Purposeful Contacts With Georgia

According to Plaintiff's responses to Defendants' interrogatories and deposition testimony, Plaintiff bases his claim of personal jurisdiction over Mr. McMahon on three arguments:

- 1) Mr. McMahon's appearance at the WWE Royal Rumble event that took place in Atlanta, Georgia on January 20, 2002;
- 2) The broadcast of various WWE television and pay-per-view programs into the State of Georgia;
- 3) The distribution of a WWE magazine that referenced the words "living legend" into the State of Georgia.

See First Interrogatories on Personal Jurisdiction Submitted by Defendants Vince McMahon and Chris Irvine ("First Interrogatories") attached as Exhibit 1; Response No. 1 to Plaintiff's Response to First Interrogatories On Personal Jurisdiction ("Response to First Interrogatories") attached as Exhibit 2; Deposition of Larry Whistler ("Whistler Depo.") at 18:5-20:22 attached as Exhibit 3.

a. Mr. McMahon Committed No Act In Connection With His Appearance At The January 20, 2002 Royal Rumble From Which Plaintiff's Cause of Action Arose Or Resulted

WWE's Royal Rumble Pay-Per-View event took place in Atlanta, Georgia on January 20, 2002 (the "2002 Royal Rumble"). Deposition of Vince McMahon ("McMahon Depo.") at 16:19-22 attached as Exhibit 4. It is undisputed that Mr. McMahon was in the State of Georgia on that occasion. It is equally undisputed, however, that Mr. McMahon's appearance in Georgia for the 2000 Royal Rumble had absolutely no relation to the alleged basis for Plaintiff's claims in this action.

By Plaintiff's own admission, Mr. McMahon appeared at the 2002 Royal Rumble as a performer in a match with WWE's Ric Flair. Whistler Depo., Ex. 3, at 21:20-22:1. In addition to his position as Chairman of WWE, Mr. McMahon also is an on-air personality who regularly appears in the storylines of WWE's sports entertainment programming. McMahon Depo, Ex. 4, at 18:3-21. Mr. McMahon's appearance at the 2002 Royal Rumble was part of a WWE storyline in which Mr. McMahon and Ric Flair fictionally were battling for ownership of WWE. Whistler Depo., Ex. 3, at 24:1-25:5.

By Plaintiff's further admission, neither the words "living legend," nor Mr.

Irvine's character, Chris Jericho, had any connection with Mr. McMahon's performance whatsoever: (i) Mr. McMahon did not speak the words "living legend" at any time; (ii) Mr. McMahon's opponent, Ric Flair, did not speak the words "living legend" at any time; (iii) WWE's announcers did not speak the words "living legend" at any time; (iv) Mr.

McMahon's match was not promoted in pre-event advertising by reference to the words "living legend;" (v) the WWE video of the 2002 Royal Rumble contains no reference to the words "living legend" in connection with Mr. McMahon's match; and (vi) Mr. Irvine's Chris Jericho character did not appear during or was mentioned in Mr. McMahon's match in any way. See Videotape of January 20, 2002 Royal Rumble Pay-Per-View ("2002 Royal Rumble Video") attached as Exhibit 5; Whistler Depo., Ex. 3, at 21:20-22:8; 23:6-18; 26:22-27:7; 29:19-31:7; McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 20:5-15; Deposition of Chris Irvine ("Irvine Depo.") at 29:23-30:10 attached as Exhibit 6. Significantly, in addition to having no involvement with the words "living legend" during his performance, Mr. McMahon specifically testified that he had no knowledge that the words "living legend" were used in any way in connection with the 2002 Royal Rumble. McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 64:20-25. Indeed, the record is undisputed that Mr. McMahon never directed Mr. Irvine to use the words "living legend" in the 2002 Royal Rumble or in any other WWE performance. McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 32:6-33:7; Irvine Depo., Ex. 6, at 45:5-7.

In point of fact, the only mention of the words "living legend" in connection with the 2002 Royal Rumble was a single reference in a pre-produced video package (the "JERICHO/ROCK Package") broadcast immediately before Mr. Irvine's match with WWE's THE ROCK. See 2002 Royal Rumble Video, Ex. 5; Whistler Depo., Ex. 3, at 25:24-26:7; 26:17-27:3; Affidavit of Melissa Manso ("Manso Aff.") attached as Exhibit

7. The JERICHO/ROCK Package was an audiovisual production that was pre-taped at WWE's television production studio in Stamford, Connecticut. Manso Aff., Ex. 7, at ¶¶ 2-6. To tell the desired story for the JERICHO/ROCK Package to set the stage for their match at the 2002 ROYAL RUMBLE, WWE selected particular audio bytes of prior performances of CHRIS JERICHO and THE ROCK. Manso Aff., Ex. 7, at ¶ 4. One such audio byte included in the JERICHO/ROCK Package referenced the words "living legend," which was taken from WWE's RAW television program broadcast from Madison Square Garden in New York City on January 7, 2002. Id. Mr. McMahon had no involvement in the decision to create the JERICHO/ROCK Package. Manso Aff., Ex. 7, at ¶ 10. Mr. McMahon similarly had no involvement in the creation and production of the JERICHO/ROCK Package, including, specifically, the decision to use the audio byte referencing the words "living legend." Id.

On this record, there plainly is no evidence that Mr. McMahon purposefully committed any act in Georgia in connection with the 2002 Royal Rumble from which Plaintiff's cause of action arose or resulted. Although Mr. McMahon undisputedly had specific contacts with Georgia by appearing at the 2002 Royal Rumble, it is equally indisputable that Mr. McMahon committed no act that evening for which he can be held substantively liable and, specifically, from which Plaintiff's claims could not have resulted. See Delong, 840 F.2d at 851-52. Accordingly, there is no basis to subject Mr.

McMahon to the specific personal jurisdiction of this Court premised upon that specific contact with the State of Georgia.

b. Mr. McMahon, Personally, Did Not Purposefully Direct WWE Programming Into Georgia

Plaintiff secondly claims that Mr. McMahon is subject to this Court's specific personal jurisdiction because WWE programming is broadcast into the State of Georgia over broadcast, cable and pay-per-view television. This argument fails on a number of levels as a matter of fact and law.

To begin with, the record is undisputed that WWE has no capability to broadcast programming on its own and, therefore, enters into agreements with numerous domestic and international television distributors for the broadcast of WWE programming.

McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 59:6-16. Domestically, WWE's principal broadcast and cable television partner is Viacom, Inc. Id. WWE currently is aired on Viacom's cable networks, TNN and MTV, and Viacom's broadcast network UPN. Id. With regard to pay-per-view programming, WWE has agreements with the major cable and satellite pay-per-view providers, including, *inter alia*. In Demand and DirecTV. The record also is undisputed that through these television outlets WWE programming is available everywhere in the United States and, indeed, throughout the world. Whistler Depo., Ex. 3, at 34:16-24; McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 59:6-16; 61:24-62:2 In fact, Plaintiff conceded that WWE programming is broadcast all over the world and is accessible to

viewers everywhere those broadcast or cable television networks are available. Whistler Depo., Ex. 3, at 34:16-35:17. WWE thus has not purposefully directed its programming to Georgia, but rather Georgia is part of the footprint of the broadcast and cable television distributors to which WWE has licensed the distribution of its programming. McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 60:17-63:15.

The record is further undisputed that the television distributors have complete control over where programming broadcast on their networks is available, "and they want to have as broad a platform as possible." McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 63:5-15.

Accordingly, WWE, let alone Mr. McMahon personally, has no ability to prevent its programming from being available in any particular area, including, for instance, in Georgia. McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 63:5-15.

As a matter of law, therefore, the broadcast of WWE programming into Georgia is an insufficient basis to subject Mr. McMahon, and indeed WWE, to the specific personal jurisdiction of this Court. Controlling authority provides that jurisdiction is proper only

Where the defendant's contacts with the forum proximately result from actions by the defendant *himself* that create a 'substantial connection' with the forum state. Although the concept of forseeability is not irrelevant to this analysis, the kind of forseeability critical to the proper exercise of personal jurisdiction is *not* the ability to see that the acts of third persons may affect the forum, but rather that the defendant's own personal acts will have some effect in the forum.

Madara, 916 F.2d at 1516-17 (internal citations omitted)(emphasis in original). "The unilateral activity of those who claim some relationship with a non-resident defendant

cannot satisfy the requirement of contact with the forum state." Madara, 916 F.2d at 1516, quoting Hanson v. Denckla, 357 U.S. 235, 253, 78 S.Ct. 1228, 1239-40 (1958).

On that basis, recent decisions involving claims of specific personal jurisdiction over non-resident defendants based on television broadcasts into the forum state have ruled that such broadcasts by third-party television distributors are legally insufficient to support specific personal jurisdiction. Overton v. Vanzant, No. CV 01-624-AS, 2001 WL 1911359, at *5 (D. Or. Dec. 13, 2001); Kulik Photography v. Cochran, 975 F.Supp. 812, 813-14 (E.D. Va. 1997); Tristata Technology, Inc. v. Neoteric Cosmetics, Inc., 961 F.Supp. 686, 690 (D. Del. 1997). Even where the courts assumed the defendants "knew" or could "foresee" that their actions would be broadcast into the specific forum states, the courts ruled the defendants had not purposefully availed themselves of the forum states. Overton, 2001 WL 1911359, at *5 ("The mere fact that an individual can 'foresee' that their actions or products will be distributed or broadcast to a specific state is not sufficient for an assertion of jurisdiction."); Kulik Photography, 975 F.Supp. at 813 ("even assuming that the Defendants knew that their actions would be televised . . . the Defendants cannot be said to have purposefully availed themselves of the [forum state]"). In those instances—as here—"the television stations were not agents of, nor were under the control of, the Defendants," Kulik Photography, 975 F.Supp. at 813, and their broadcasts thus constituted "the unilateral activity of a third-party [which] is not an appropriate consideration when determining whether a defendant has sufficient contacts

with a forum state to justify an assertion of jurisdiction." Overton, 2001 WL 1911359, at *5. Only where the defendant, itself, specifically targets the forum state and the plaintiff's alleged injuries arise from those targeted activities is the assertion of specific personal jurisdiction warranted. Peridyne, 117 F.Supp.2d at 1370 (holding court had personal jurisdiction over non-resident defendant because "plaintiff's claims arise out of or relate to the defendant's activities, albeit largely electronic, directed at Georgia"); Lott v. J.W. O'Connor & Co., Inc., 991 F.Supp. 785, 787 (N.D. Miss. 1998)(absence of proof that defendants "specifically targeted residents in [forum state] was fatal to claim of personal jurisdiction"); Tristrata Technology, 961 F.Supp 686 at 690 ("absent proof of a promotional campaign targeted at [the forum state]" the defendant's television appearances were insufficient to establish personal jurisdiction over him). Accordingly, the mere broadcast of WWE programming into Georgia cannot support this Court's specific personal jurisdiction over Mr. McMahon because it does not demonstrate Mr. McMahon's personal purposeful contacts directed to Georgia.

In any event, any jurisdictional implications arising from the broadcast of WWE programming would only concern WWE as a corporation, not Mr. McMahon personally. As noted above, Mr. McMahon only could be subject to liability, and thus subject to this Court's personal jurisdiction, if he personally participated in the alleged infringing activities or specifically directed the alleged infringing activity to be done through purposeful conduct with or in Georgia. However, there is no evidence in the record that

Mr. McMahon personally directed or had any involvement in Mr. Irvine's alleged reference to himself as "living legend." To the contrary, the undisputed evidence is that Mr. Irvine first spoke the words "living legend" on WWE programming without Mr. McMahon's knowledge and, thereafter, Mr. McMahon never directed Mr. Irvine to speak the words "living legend" or had any involvement regarding Mr. Irvine's alleged use of the words. McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 32:2-34:2; Irvine Depo., Ex. 6, 28:4-29:2. There also is no evidence in the record that Mr. McMahon had any personal involvement in determining where WWE programming would be available, including, specifically, directing the broadcast of WWE programming into Georgia.

The critical absence of such evidence fundamentally distinguishes Mr. McMahon from the officer-defendant in <u>Foxworthy</u>. In <u>Foxworthy</u>, the court found evidence that the individual defendant, personally, had established the corporate defendant's contacts with Georgia. <u>Foxworthy</u>, 879 F.Supp. at 1207. Most importantly, the corporate defendant in <u>Foxworthy</u> only had two employees, the individual defendant and his wife. <u>Id.</u> The wife's duties were primarily financial, leaving the individual defendant otherwise responsible for the daily operations of the business. <u>Id.</u> On that basis, the <u>Foxworthy</u> court reasoned

it takes no great leap to conclude that, if anything is done on behalf of Custom Tees, it is done or caused to be done by [the individual defendant]. . . . In short, the record leaves the court with the firm impression that Custom Tees' contacts with this state were established by Friedman. Custom Tees transacted business in this state, and the strong evidence is that Friedman

directed those transactions. The court is not faced with a situation where a person is sued because of his title alone.

Foxworthy, 879 F.Supp. at 1207.

In contrast, WWE is a publicly traded corporation with over 400 employees.

McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 11:10-11; 18:14-21. As Mr. McMahon specifically testified,

"there is a certain amount of business that goes on at World Wrestling Entertainment, and

[he] can't see everything, be everything, et cetera." McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 35:23
36:4. Mr. McMahon, therefore, relies on the people he hires to make operational decisions for their departments. McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 22:3-9; 35:23-36:4.

Accordingly, in the absence of specific evidence that Mr. McMahon directed or personally participated in the alleged infringing conduct and purposefully directed that conduct into Georgia, Foxworthy is wholly inapposite and this Court has no basis to assert specific personal jurisdiction over Mr. McMahon.

c. Mr. McMahon Did Not Purposefully Direct WWE's Magazine Into Georgia

Plaintiff lastly claims that Mr. McMahon is subject to this Court's specific personal jurisdiction because WWE magazines are available in the State of Georgia, one of which contained a single reference to the words "living legend." See First Interrogatories, Ex. 1; Response No. 1 to Response to First Interrogatories, Ex. 2. As with Plaintiff's claim of jurisdiction based on the broadcast of WWE programming into Georgia, however, the record fatally lacks any evidence that Mr. McMahon directed or had any personal

involvement in the allegedly infringing magazine reference or that Mr. McMahon personally purposefully directed that allegedly infringing magazine reference into Georgia. Indeed, there is absolutely no evidence in the record that Mr. McMahon has any personal involvement whatsoever in the publication or distribution of WWE's magazine. To the contrary, in fact, Plaintiff conceded that Mr. McMahon has no direct involvement with the WWE magazine, rather that "Vince hires the department and makes sure they do their jobs." Whistler Depo., Ex. 3, at 47:4-5; see also Whistler Depo., Ex. 3, at 46:24-47:14.

In the complete absence of any evidence of Mr. McMahon's personal involvement with the WWE magazine, there again is no basis to assert personal jurisdiction over Mr. McMahon for alleged acts of WWE with which he undisputedly had no personal involvement. Plaintiff's claim of specific jurisdiction over Mr. McMahon personally, therefore, only can be based on the fact that he is Chairman of WWE, which is legally insufficient to sustain jurisdiction under controlling law. See Delong, 840 F.2d at 852.

D. Mr. Irvine Is Not Properly Subject To Personal Jurisdiction In This Court

As with Mr. McMahon, this Court's specific personal jurisdiction over Mr. Irvine must be established separately and independently from WWE. In his responses to interrogatories and deposition testimony, Plaintiff identified the following grounds as the purported basis for this Court's personal jurisdiction over Mr. Irvine:

1) Mr. Irvine's appearance at the 2002 Royal Rumble;

2) Mr. Irvine's appearance in WWE programming broadcast into Georgia.

See First Interrogatories, Ex. 1; Response No. 2, Response to First Interrogatories, Ex. 2.

1. Mr. Irvine's Committed No Act In Connection With His Appearance At The 2002 Royal Rumble Form Which Plaintiff's Cause Of Action Arose Or Resulted

Mr. Irvine's appearance at the 2002 Royal Rumble cannot support this Court's specific personal jurisdiction over Mr. Irvine because Mr. Irvine committed no purposeful act in the State of Georgia in connection with that performance from which Plaintiff's cause of action arose or resulted. Simply put, Mr. Irvine never spoke the words "living legend" in the State of Georgia during the 2002 Royal Rumble or in any other WWE performance at which he appeared in Georgia. Irvine Depo., Ex. 6, at 29:7-9. In fact, Mr. Irvine testified he had no knowledge whether the words "living legend" were spoken or referenced in connection with the 2002 Royal Rumble in any manner whatsoever. Irvine Depo., Ex. 6, at 31:14-18.

As discussed above, the only mention of the words "living legend" in connection with the 2002 Royal Rumble was a single reference in the JERICHO/ROCK preproduced video package broadcast immediately before Mr. Irvine's match with WWE's THE ROCK. See 2002 Royal Rumble Video, Ex. 5; Whistler Depo., Ex. 3, at 25:24-26:7; 26:17-27:3; Manso Aff., Ex. 7, at ¶2. The decision to create the JERICHO/ROCK Package was made by WWE at its Stamford, Connecticut headquarters, and the entire

production of the JERICHO/ROCK Package was pre-taped at WWE's television production studio in Stamford, Connecticut. Manso Aff., Ex. 7, at ¶¶ 2-6. As noted above, to tell the desired story for the JERICHO/ROCK Package to set the stage for their match at the 2002 ROYAL RUMBLE, WWE selected particular audio bytes of prior performances of CHRIS JERICHO and THE ROCK. Manso Aff., Ex. 7, at ¶ 4. One such audio byte included in the JERICHO/ROCK Package referenced the words "living legend," which was taken from WWE's RAW television program broadcast from Madison Square Garden in New York City on January 7, 2002. Id. After selecting and digitally recording the various audio bytes, WWE selected and digitally recorded music to overlay the audio bytes throughout the JERICHO/ROCK Package. Manso Aff., Ex. 7, at ¶5. Finally, WWE selected and digitally recorded video clips of prior WWE programs to match the music of the package. Id. The JERICHO/ROCK Package was then edited and enhanced in the "edit suite" located in the WWE television production studio in Stamford, Connecticut, including, among other things, the addition of video and sound effects. Manso Aff., Ex. 7, at ¶ 6. Once completed, the JERICHO/ROCK Package was digitally recorded on a "clip reel," which is a single digital beta tape containing all the packages and other pre-produced segments to be used for the production of the 2002 ROYAL RUMBLE. Manso Aff., Ex. 7, at ¶ 8. Immediately before the match between CHRIS JERICHO and THE ROCK, the JERICHO/ROCK Package was broadcast from the "clip reel" by satellite for transmission to various pay-per-view providers and by

direct link onto the "jumbotron" video monitor in the arena. Manso Aff., Ex. 7, at ¶ 9.

Mr. Irvine had no input or involvement in the creation or production of the

JERICHO/ROCK Package. Manso Aff., Ex. 7, at ¶ 10.

Accordingly, the sole reference to the words "living legend" in connection with the 2002 Royal Rumble actually was a pre-taped recording, produced by WWE in Stamford, Connecticut without Mr. Irvine's input, involvement or even knowledge, of Mr. Irvine speaking the words "living legend" at a prior WWE performance in New York City. See 2002 Royal Rumble Video, Ex. 5. Yet, while in the State of Georgia for his appearance at the 2002 Royal Rumble, neither Mr. Irvine, nor anyone else in Phillips Arena in Atlanta, Georgia, for that matter, ever spoke the words "living legend." On this record, the assertion of jurisdiction over Mr. Irvine, in reality, is based on the unilateral activity of a third-party—WWE—to produce and broadcast the JERICHO/ROCK Package during the 2002 Royal Rumble without Mr. Irvine's involvement or even knowledge. This is an insufficient basis on which to assert personal jurisdiction under controlling law. See Madara, 916 F.2d at 1516-17 (specific personal jurisdiction must arise from specific tortious act in the forum state, not a performer's general activities in the forum state).

2. Mr. Irvine Is Not Subject To This Court's Specific Personal Jurisdiction As A Result Of The Broadcast Of WWE_Programming In Georgia

Plaintiff additionally claims that Mr. Irvine is subject to the specific personal jurisdiction of this Court because he allegedly spoke the words "living legend" on WWE

Programming that was broadcast into Georgia. See First Interrogatories, Ex. 1; Response No. 2 to Plaintiff's Response to First Interrogatories, Ex. 2. It is undisputed that any such alleged statements were made outside of Georgia. Those out-of-state statements, however, would be legally insufficient to support this Court's exercise of jurisdiction because Mr. Irvine did not purposefully direct his acts toward the State of Georgia. See Peridyne, 117 F.Supp.2d at 1370.

Mr. Irvine testified that he had no control over WWE television or Pay-Per-View contracts, nor did he have any involvement in the negotiations of agreements for the broadcast of WWE programming into Georgia. Irvine Depo., Ex. 6, at 51:11-14.; 51:21-23. Moreover, as Mr. McMahon testified, the television distributors have complete control over where programming broadcast on their networks is available, "and they want to have as broad a platform as possible." McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 63:5-15. WWE, therefore, no less Mr. Irvine personally, has no ability to prevent its programming from being available in any particular area, including, in Georgia. McMahon Depo., Ex. 4, at 63:5-15.

As discussed in detail above, recent decisions involving claims of specific personal jurisdiction over non-resident defendants based on television broadcasts into the forum state have ruled that such broadcasts by third-party television distributors are legally insufficient to support specific personal jurisdiction broadcasts thus constituted "the unilateral activity of a third-party [which] is not an appropriate consideration when

assertion of jurisdiction." Overton, 2001 WL 1911359, at *5; see also Kulik

Photography, 975 F.Supp. at 813-14; Tristata Technology, 961 F.Supp. at 690. Indeed, as an independent contractor, simply under contract with WWE, it would be legally inappropriate and manifestly unfair to impute to Mr. Irvine broadcasting issues over which neither he nor WWE undisputedly have any control.

Similarly, in Madara, the Eleventh Circuit specifically ruled that an individual does not have minimum contacts with a forum when that individual's statements are published in the forum by a third-party. Madara, 916 F.2d1517-18. Consistent with the television broadcast cases, the Eleventh Circuit held that, even if the individual reasonably could have foreseen that the statement would have reached the forum state, those contacts were not the result of the individual's own personal acts and thus were not purposefully directed at the forum state. Id. at 1518-19, citing Asahi Metal Industry Co. v. Superior Court, 480 U.S. 102, 107 S.Ct. 1026, 1032-33 (1987)(defendant's mere awareness that some of its products would eventually enter the forum state was not enough to support the exercise of personal jurisdiction). Accordingly, there is no evidence that Mr. Irvine purposefully directed any statements made in the course of WWE television programs into the State of Georgia. In the absence of evidence of that Mr. Irvine purposefully directed the alleged acts to Georgia, this Court cannot assert jurisdiction over a nonresident defendant for statements made outside of Georgia.

IV. CONCLUSION

For all the foregoing reasons, the Complaint in its entirety should be dismissed as against Mr. McMahon and Mr. Irvine pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 12(b)(2).

Respectfully submitted,

John L. Taylor, Jr.
Georgia Bar No. 700400
Celeste McCollough
Georgia Bar No. 487013
CHOREY, TAYLOR & FEIL
The Lenox Building, Suite 1700
3399 Peachtree Road, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30326
(404) 841-3200
(404) 841-3221 (fax)

Jerry S. McDevitt

Curtis B. Krasik

Julie R. Fenstermaker

KIRKPATRICK &

LOCKHART LLP

Henry W. Oliver Building

535 Smithfield Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

(412) 355-6500

(412) 355-6501 (fax)

Attorneys for Defendants World Wrestling Federation Entertainment, Inc., Vince McMahon, and Chris Irvine, a/k/a Chris Jericho, a/k/a Jericho

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO LOCAL RULE 7.1D

Pursuant to Local Rule 7.1D, counsel hereby certifies that this pleading has been prepared with Times New Roman font (14 point).

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

a/k/a LARRY ZBYSZKO a/k/a THE LIVING LEGEND, an individual, Plaintiff, vs. WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware) Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an individual, Defendants. Defendants.	LARRY WHISTLER)
an individual, Plaintiff, vs. WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware) Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an) individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an) individual, individual,)	a/k/a LARRY ZBYSZKO)
Plaintiff, vs. WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware) Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an) individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an) individual, individual,)	a/k/a THE LIVING LEGEND,)
Plaintiff,) vs.) WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware) Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an) individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an) individual,)	an individual,)
vs.) WORLD WRESTLING) ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware) Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an) individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a) CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an) individual,)) Civil Action No. 1 02-CV-1008-CC
WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware) Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an) individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an) individual,)	Plaintiff,)
WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware) Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an) individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an) individual,))
ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware) Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an) individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a) CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an) individual,)	VS.)
ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware) Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an) individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a) CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an) individual,))
Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an) individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a) CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an) individual,)	WORLD WRESTLING)
individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an individual,)	ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware	e)
CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an) individual,)	Corporation, VINCE MCMAHON, an)
individual,)	individual, CHRIS IRVINE a/k/a)
)	CHRIS JERICHO, a/k/a JERICHO, an)
Defendants.)	individual,)
Defendants.))
)	Defendants.)
)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this day I served opposing counsel(s) of record with the foregoing *MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS CLAIMS FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION BY DEFENDANTS VINCE McMAHON AND CHRIS IRVINE* via First Class Mail, postage pre-paid to the following address:

Joel D. Myers, Esq. Myers and Associates, P.C. 1827 Powers Ferry Road Building 3, Suite 200 Atlanta, Georgia 30339

Ben C. Brodhead, Esq. Ben C. Brodhead, P.C. 235 Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 400 Atlanta, Georgia 30303

This 13th day of February, 2003.

Attorneys for Defendants

Vince McMahon, and Chris Irvine, a/k/a

Chris Jericho, a/k/a Jericho

Celeste McCollough Georgia Bar No. 487013 CHOREY, TAYLOR & FEIL The Lenox Building, Suite 1700 3399 Peachtree Road, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30326 Phone: (404) 841-3200

Telecopier: (404) 841-3221